M.R.O. 14—10,000—21-4-22

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue **DEPARTMENT.**

G.O. No. 125 Press ~~Mis.~~

52-53

Dated 25 — 1 — 1860.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

No. 52. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 22d October 1859, No. 4281.

Read letter from the Collector of Malabar, dated 14th July 1859, No. 172, reporting for Fasli 1268 on the management of the five Laccadive Islands, sequestered for arrears of peshcush due by the Bíbí of Cannanore.

(In Con. 20th July 1859, No. 3596.)

Read again letter from the Acting Collector of the same district, dated 3rd June 1858, No. 84, forwarding a report on the Island of Menakoi, from his Special Assistant, Mr. Thomas, who was deputed to visit that island.

(In Con. 28th December 1858, No. 2562.)

Resolved that the foregoing communications be submitted for the information and orders of Government.

2. The first letter recorded above, is a report from the Collector of Malabar for Fasli 1268, A. D. 1858-59, on the results of the management of the five Laccadive Islands, sequestered for arrears of peshcush due by the Bíbí of Cannanore, including the island of Menakoi which was omitted in the previous year's report,* in consequence of its complete sequestration having been delayed, as Government are aware, by the conduct of the Bíbí and her people.

**Vide Board's Proceedings to Government, dated 20th December 1858, No. 4682.*
Bd's. Pro. No. 1107, dated 14th April 1856.
Ex. Mins. Cons. No. 605, dated 18th June 1857.

3. From the account particulars accompanying the present report, it appears that the receipts for Fasli 1268 amounted in all to Rupees 40,113-3-11, being, for the most part, as on the last occasion, the sale proceeds of cocoanuts, coir and cowries; and the bonâ fide disbursements, consisting of the price paid to the islanders for the above produce, the pay of the establishments and other minor charges, to Rupees 21,922-1-1, leaving a surplus of Rupees 18,191-2-10 on the year's transactions. Adding to this amount the balance of Rupees 1,022-0-3 which remained at the disposal of the Collector at the close of Fasli 1267, the gross balance to be accounted for is Rupees 19,213-3-1. Out of this, Rupees 16,000 have been taken to the credit of Government in part liquidation of the Bíbí's debt, Rupees 1,000 left in the custody of the Amín at Menakoi for necessary expenditure, and the remainder, Rupees 2,213-3-1, retained for current expenses in the Collector's treasury.

4. The direct effect of the operations of the year on the arrears due by the Bíbí, "inclusive of the peshcush of Rupees 15,000-0-11 for Fasli 1268, has been a reduction of the debt to the extent of Rupees 6,250-10-1, the balance against her at the commencement of the Fasli having been Rupees 32,444-11-4, and that at the end Rupees 26,194-1-3, consisting, besides the peshcush above alluded to, of Rupees 1,866-15-8 on account of Fasli 1267, and Rupees 9,327-0-8 the balance of the cost of provisions supplied to the islanders in 1851.

5. A fair comparison between the receipts shown in the former and present reports is impracticable, as the first embraced the operations of 19 months, while the latter is for only one Fasli; but from the following comparative abstract in which the revenue derived from Menakoi is necessarily omitted, added to the statement of the Collector, that "there is still a balance of goods of this season to be received from the islands with the conveyance of which the boisterous nature of the weather interfered," there would appear to be reason for inferring that the re-

venue from the staple products of the islands has not diminished, although a considerable decline in their value on the main land is perceptible;—

Products.	Quantity obtained for 19 months in Faslis 1266 and 1267.				Price at which it was sold on the main land.	Income realized.			Quantity obtained in Fasli 1268.				Price at which it was sold.	Income realized.		
	Candy.	M.	lb.	T	Rupees.	Rs.	A.	P.	Candy.	M	lb.	T.	Rupees.	Rs.	A.	P.
Coir.....	1,537	2	13	0	28 to 52 per candy.	57,182	0	7	800	0	0	0	27½ to 42 per candy.	28,319	12	0
Cowries...	4	2	23	0	110 to 175 per candy.	616	14	3	3	5	0	0	86 to 103½ per candy.	308	1	3
Tortoise-shell.....	.....	1	10	10	4½ to 8 per lb.	252	9	5	.....	0	6	18	1¼ to 8 per lb.	37	11	5
Cocoanuts.	3,04,399	in	No	...	9 to 19 per mille.	4,062	7	6	1,00,822	in	No	...	7½ to 13 per mille.	1,174	5	7

6. Excepting the price of the cowries purchased on the islands, which appears to have slightly increased during the year under report, that of the other articles similarly obtained on account of Government, and the freight incurred in their conveyance to Calicut, have been stationary, as shown in the margin.*

	Price.	Freight.
*Coir....	Rs. 17½ per candy.....	Rs. 1 12 per candy.
Cowries..	A. 1-6 per seer in Fasli 1267, average rate in Fasli 1268 as 2 per seer.	,, 15 2 per 100 seers.
Tortoise shell	Rupees 2 per lb..	,, 0 0
Cocoanuts.....	.....	,, 0 12 per mille.

7. The receipts from Menakoi are included in the sum of Rupees 40,113-3-11, given in paragraph 3 above, as the total revenue of all the islands in Fasli 1268, but as shewn separately in the account particulars, amounted to Rupees 6,820-14-7; to this perhaps should be added a further sum, not taken into account before, of Rupees 2,500, being the estimated value of 70 candies of coir and 17 lbs. of tortoise shell apparently received from the same island late in the season when prices had fallen, and the sale of which has consequently been postponed. The last mentioned article being, however, no where mentioned as a source of revenue in this island, the estimated additional item of 2,500 Rupees refers probably to the receipts from the whole of the islands and not from Menakoi alone. This supposition is the more likely to be correct, as the statement regarding the balance of goods still to be received from the *islands* immediately follows the remark regarding the tortoise shell remaining unsold on the mainland.

Vide paragraph 4, *clause* 3.

8. The second letter recorded above, relates exclusively to Menakoi and contains a valuable and interesting report accompanied by notes, from Mr. Thomas, late Special Assistant in Malabar, detailing the results of his personal enquiries on the island. It is unnecessary to review its contents here farther than as they indicate the probable income derived by the Bíbí from the island and what may be expected under its present management. The Board would, however, suggest that copy of the notes on the History, &c., of the island be communicated to the Literary Society, for publication in their journal.

Vide Board's letter to Government, No. 1400, *dated* 21*st April* 1858 *and conclusion of paragraph* 2 *Ex. Mins. Cons. in the R. D., No.* 671, *dated* 21*st in Con.* 26*th May* 1858, *No.* 2128.

9. The Bíbí's annual income from Menakoi, appears to have been, for some time past, about Rupees 8,000, (the amount stated by Mr. Robinson in paragraph 2 of his letter, as that at which

it was estimated in 1847 by the Bíbí's principal Agent, since deceased, and also as the result of Mr. Thomas' later enquiries, now being referred to made with the assistance of Hussein Malikan, the individual to whom Government sanctioned a grant of 2,000 Rupees in consideration of his loyal conduct, &c., during the disturbance which rendered the deputation of Mr. Thomas to the island necessary,) and was almost wholly derived from a barter and export trade which she was able to maintain with the islanders, and by means of her vessels* to the several ports of Goa, Mangalore, Calicut, the Maldives, Galle, Coringa, Calcutta, &c. the largest profits being apparently secured at the last mentioned place.

E. M. C. in the Revenue Department, No. 922, *dated* 3*rd in Con.* 10*th July* 1858, *No.* 2900. *Vide Collector's letter dated* 25*th March* 1858, *submitted to Government in the Board's letter, dated* 21*st April* 1858.

Vide paragraph 37 *of Mr. Thomas' report and paragraphs* 62, 64, *and* 65 *of his notes.*

* 1. *Barque.*
3. *Odies.*
3. *Band Odies.*
1. *Maas Boat.*

10. The staple products of the island, forming also the most important articles in its export trade, are cocoanuts, jaggery, coir and cowries, and the greater part of the island being the jenm or fee-simple property of the Bíbí, a very small portion only of which is rented out on the terms shown in the margin.* The first article is chiefly, if not altogether, obtained from her own plantations for export to Bengal, where, it is stated, they fetch from 18 to 20 Rupees per thousand; at the higher rate, Mr. Thomas, in the Income table appended to his letter, sets down the gross value of the annual exports, which average 3,50,000 nuts, at Rupees 7,000.

* "*A part is rented out at* [illegible] *annas per tree, and another portion on what is called 'Valiapatom,' where a sum of money is levied on a tract.*"
Paragraph 10 *of report.*

11. The jaggery of the island is manufactured from the juice of the cocoanut tree obtained by tapping, an operation considered necessary to the health of the plant, and performed by a class of tree-climbers who are hired for the purpose, and who themselves also usually rent trees with the like object of manufacturing jaggery, paying the owners in kind for the same. The rents charged on the Bíbí's estate are 12 and 24 adubas monthly, equivalent at the rate jaggery sells on the island, viz. 7 adubas per Rupee, to an annual rental of 20-9-0, and 41-2-0, respectively, the higher amount being charged—apparently as a compensation to the Bíbí, for the loss which, on such occasions, is known to accrue to her general property—to the renters who may find it necessary to live with their families on the estate. All the jaggery exported on account of the Bíbí, would appear to have been th[illegible] obtained added to the produce of a poll tax, and such further quantity as her agent might have been able to procure from the islanders in exchange for rice, salt, &c. The total quantity exported amounting annually to about 2,500 adubas, valued according to the sale price in Menakoi, at Rupees 357-2-0. The profits realised on this article are no where distinctly estimated, nor indeed could they have been, seeing that it was wholly expended on the outward voyage to Calcutta at the intermediate ports of Maldives and Galle, in exchange for cocoanuts, coir, cowries and Maas fish, and no accounts of the revenue of the island or the Bíbí, are forthcoming, from which the extent of such transactions can be separately estimated.

Paragraphs 15 *to* 17 *report.*

Paragraphs 18 *to* 21 *of Mr. Thomas' letter.*

Vide income table.

Vide traffic table paragraphs 64 *and* 65 *of the notes, and paragraph* 3 *of Mr. Thomas' letter.*

12. It is doubtful from the papers before the Board, whether any coir was usually exported, on account of the Bíbí, from the island, the remark in the income table against it being "used on the island." It is not, however, a monopoly here as in the other islands, where it forms the largest

Paragraph 7 *of Mr. Robinson's letter.*
Paragraph 3 *idem.*

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Grant proposes an increase of 2 Rupees to the pay of the Gumashta, and further recommends a remuneration of 10 Rupees per month for six months to the Sea Customs Manager at Calicut, who receives, keeps, and sells the articles received from the islands; the sale proceeds from the commencement being stated to have amounted to Rupees 1,58,252. Should this additional expenditure at Calicut be sanctioned, the entire cost, on account of establishments, debitable to the Bíbí's estate, will be Rupees 3,588 as shown in the margin, or Rupees 732 less than what it was originally.

	Rs.
Shown in the preceding paragraph	3,360
Calicut Manager	60
,, *Gumashta*	72
,, 4 *Kolkars*	96
	1,58,252
Rs...	3,588

No. 53. ORDER THEREON, 25th January 1860, No. 125.

1. With these Proceedings the Board forward two letters from the Collector of Malabar the first, (though latest in point of date) containing an account of the administration of the five sequestered Islands during Fasli 1268; and the second forwarding a report from the Special Assistant Collector Mr. Thomas, on the Island of Menakoi (one of the above five,) to which he was deputed in 1858.

2. The result of the management during the Fasli under consideration, has been, that Rupees 40,113-3-11 were collected, of which 21,922-1-1 having been expended, on establishments and other bonâ fide charges, there remained Rupees 18,191-2-10 as a surplus, to which was added a sum of 1,022-0-3 in hand at the commencement of the Fasli, making a total of 19,213-3-1: of this 16,000 Rupees were credited to Government, the remainder being held in deposit to meet current expenditure. The effect has been that the Bíbí's debt has been reduced by Rupees 6,250-10-1, for while it amounted at the commencement of the Fasli to Rupees 32,444-11-4, it had decreased at the close to 26,194-1-3 made up of the following items.

	Rs.	A.	P.
Balance for 1267...	1,866	15	8
Peshcush for 1268	15,000	0	11
Cost of provisions supplied to the Islanders in 1857...	9,327	0	8
	26,194	1	3

3. The Board shew that while there is no reason to suppose that the revenue from the staple products of the islands has diminished, a considerable decline in their value on the main land is perceptible; the price of cowries has slightly risen; that of other articles obtained on account of Government, and the freight to Calicut has remained stationary.

Paragraph 5.
Paragraph 6.

4. The Honorable the Governor in Council approves of the way in which the management of the islands has been conducted during the Fasli in question.

5. His Honor has read with much interest the report made by Mr. Thomas on the island of Menakoi; in accordance with the suggestion of the Board the notes on the history, &c. of the island, (which accompanied the report) will be communicated to the Literary Society for publication in their journal.

6. With reference to the orders requested on the subject matter of the 15th and 17th paragraphs of the Proceedings under consideration, and to the alterations in establishment, &c. proposed in the 18th and following paragraphs, the Government observe that they have already directed* that the islands at present under sequestration should be made over to the Bíbí on payment of all the arrears of peshcush due by her, and it will not be therefore necessary to make any other arrangements than those now in force.

* *Order of Government* 10*th December* 1859 *No.* 1669.

(Signed) T. PYCROFT,
Chief Secretary.

IN CON. 20TH JULY 1859, No. 3596.

From P. GRANT, Esq., Collector of MALABAR,
dated Calicut, 14th July 1859, No. 172.

I have the honor to report on the administration, during Fusly 1268, (A. D. 1858-59,) of the five Islands sequestrated under the orders of Government, dated 7th September 1854, for arrears of Peshcush due by the Beebee of Cannanore.

2. The receipts, as shewn by the accompanying detailed account, amounted to Rupees 40,113-3-11, which added to the balance* on hand at the commencement of the year, gives a total of Rs. 41,135-4-2. Of this sum Rs. 22,922-1-1 have been expended in paying the value of the produce purchased from the islanders, as well as the establishment and other miscellaneous charges, Rs. 16,000 have been credited to Government in part liquidation of the arrears of Peshcush due by the Beebee and the residue, Rupees 2,213-3-1, is held in deposit to meet current expenses.

Number 1.

* Rupees 1,022-0-3.

Price paid for staple produce purchased from Islanders.....	Rs.	13,157 1 5	
Establishment.....	,,	6,684 14 9	
Miscellaneous charges.....	,,	3,080 0 11	
	Rupees...	22,922 1 1	

3. At the commencement of the year under review the balance of the Beebee's debt amounted to.....Rupees 32,444 11 4
Add Peshcush for Fusly 1268..... ,, 15,000 0 11
47,444 12 3

Deduct amount credited to Government and adverted to in the preceding paragraph.....Rupees 16,000 0 0
Ditto do. being compensation payable to the Beebee on account of the Amenee Devi Island... ... . ,, 5,250 0 0
Ditto being an excess charged against the Beebee on account of provisions supplied by the Bombay Government. ,, 0 11 0
21,250 11 0

Balance due on the 30th June 1859..... 26,194 1 3

This sum comprises the balance, Rupees 1,866-15-8, due by the Beebee on account of Fusly 1267, her whole Peshcush for Fusly 1268, (Rupees 15,000-0-11,) and the cost of provisions supplied to the islanders in 1851, viz., Rupees 9,327-0-8.

4. The result of the measures adopted to re-establish the authority of Government on the island of Menakay has been satisfactory. Peace and order prevail, and the people pay their dues with alacrity. The revenue derived from this island, as will be seen by the detailed account, amounts to Rupees 6,820-14-7.

Comprising partly the revenue of the previous Fusly, which was ceded to Government when the sequestration was re-established.

The produce was partly sold on the spot, and partly here and realized the prices shewn in the margin.

	Average price obtained at Menakay. Rs.	A.	P.	Average price obtained at Calicut. Rs.	A.	P.
Cocoanut, per Mill.....	8	0	0	7	7	*10½
Coir per Candy..	20	9	8¾	0	0	0
Couries per do.....	40	0	0	109	8	0
Rice per do.....	0	0	0	13	10	6

* This low rate is owing to about half the quantity of nuts received being rotten.

There are still 70 candies of coir, and 17 pounds of tortoise-shell of this season's produce on hand; it was late before they reached the main land, and the price had fallen so low when they did come that I deemed it best to retain them until next season; the value of both products may be set down at Rupees 2,500. There is still a balance of goods of this season to be received from the islands, with the conveyance of which the boisterous nature of the weather interfered.

The assignment made by the Beebee of certain plots of land for the support of some mosques, and the parties performing service in them, has not been disturbed, and I do not propose to interfere with them; but I think it advisable that certain allowances to Premanies (Chiefs,) and

Arkats (Pilots,) for superintending the picking, counting and storing of the nuts, and to Nada pallans' (Umshom Kolkars,) wives, in addition to the payments made to their husbands, be abolished, as the services required of the two former classes are now performed by Government servants, and the allowance to the women is quite unnecessary. In this opinion, I may add, Mr. Thomas, who is familiarly acquainted with the people and their circumstances, coincides.

5. Experience has shewn that the present establishment at the islands of Agathy, Cawurthy, Androte and Kalpenny is quite unequal to the due fulfilment of the duties required of it. From the peculiar position of the islands, the only Ameen over them is unable to visit all of them as often as is desirable, for once the rains set in, all communication between them is stopped; the Government interests are consequently neglected, and the people left quite at the mercy of the Adigharry, too much under the influence of the petty jealousies and family quarrels which abound in so small a community. On the other hand the establishment deputed to Menakay at a cost of Rupees 250 per mensem, as reported in the 2nd paragraph of Mr. Robinson's letter of the 25th March 1858, admits of modification, now that good feeling and cordiality prevail there. I have already dispensed with the services of a portion of this establishment from the 18th January last. Under these circumstances I beg to append, for the orders of Government, a list of the revised establishment proposed to be entertained for the five islands at a cost of Rupees 280 per mensem, besides a Gomastah and 4 Peons for the depôt at Calicut* at Rupees 28 per month.

1 Ameen	.....	Rupees	35	
1 Gomastah	.....	,,	8	
2 Peons @ 5 Rupees each	....	,,	10	
4 Adigharies @	do.	,,	20	
8 Peons @ 3	do.	,,	24	
		Rupees	97	
1 Gomastah	.....	Rupees	12	
1 Jemadar	.....	,,	14	
2 Havildars	.....	,,	20	
5 Peons	.....	,,	35	
		Rupees	81	

* These will be necessary for only 5 or 6 months in the year.

I would also recommend a remuneration of 10 Rupees monthly for six months to the Sea Custom Manager of Calicut, to whose charge and responsibility the articles received from the islands are committed until they are disposed of; their sale by auction and the collection of the proceeds is effected by him. The aggregate sum realized by the sale of these articles from the commencement, amounts to Rupees 1,58,252.

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Enc. 1.

Account Particulars of Receipts and Disbursements of the Produce of the five Islands under the management of Government from July 1858 to June 1859.

Particulars.	Amount. Rs.	A.	P.	Total. Rs.	A.	P.
Balance on the 30th June 1858.....	.....	...	...	1,022	0	3
Sale proceeds of 800 Candies of Coir received from the Akathee and 3 other Islands, at Rupees 27½ to Rupees 42 per Candy... ...	23,319	12	0			
Do. 3 Candies and 5 Maunds of Cowries, at Rupees 86 to Rupees 103½ per Candy.....	308	1	3			
Do. Tortoises shell 6 lbs. and 18 Tolas, at Rupees 1¼ to Rupees 8 per lb...	37	11	5			
Do. 1,00,822 Cocoanuts, at Rupees 7½ to Rupees 13 per 1,000.	1,174	5	7			
Amount refunded, being balance of advances which remained in the hands of the Ameen when he was suspended from office... ...	327	15	8			
				30,167	13	11
Sale proceeds of 382 Robbins and 32 Seers of Rice, at Rupees 2-5-9 $\frac{9}{100}$ per Robbin... ...	902	13	5			
Do. excess Rice found in 75 Robbins and 12 Seers...	2	9	10			
Do. proceeds of 190 Maunds and 30 Seers of Salt...	201	12	4			
Amount realised on account of Kooykanom right on trees.	10	3	3			
Do. on account of Fines...	7	0	0			
Sale proceeds of Choppra (dry Cocoanuts.)	1	12	0			
Do. of old Brass Pots belonging to the Beebee of Cannanore..	17	4	0			
Refund being amount of advances made on account of pay, &c.	1,981	0	7			
				3,124	7	5
Particulars of the sale of the produce from the Menakay Island.						
Sale proceeds of 59,851 Cocoanuts (including damaged ones) at 3 to 14 Rupees per 1,000.	448	6	6			

Particulars.				Amount. Rs.	A.	P.	Total. Rs.	A.	P.
By cash paid to the Islanders according to fixed rates for all produce (save Cocoanuts,) belonging to Government and the tenants.									
For 800 Candies of Coir at 17½ Rupees per Candy	14,000	0	0						
For 6 lbs. and 18 Tolas of Tortoises shell at 2 Rupees per lb...	12	15	0						
For 338 Seers Cowries, at 2½ Seers Rice per Seer, being 16 Robbins and 45 Seers, at Rupees 1-14-5 per Robbin...	31	4	1						
For 118 Seers Cowries, at 4 Seers Rice per Seer, being 9 Robbins and 22 Seers at Rupees 2-13-7 per Robbin...	26	14	5						
				14,071	1	6			
Less value of the produce belonging to Government... ...				914	0	1			
							13,157	1	5
By Cash paid on account of freight for bringing the produce from the Islands.									
On 1,00,822 Cocoanuts at 12 As. per 1,000.	75	9	0						
On 49 Candies 14 Maunds and 2 lbs. of Coir, at Rupees 1-12 per Candy... ...	86	15	8						
On 338 Seers Cowries at Rs. 15-2 per 100 Seers...	3	3	5						
				165	12	1			
By Cash being boat and cooly hire for landing the above 1,00,822 Cocoanuts and bringing them to the Custom House.	14	1	10						
By hire of Coolies for conveying and weighing Coir and Cowries belonging to Government...	7	7	2						
By for erecting a stage for drying Cowries.	5	5	8						
By boat hire for landing Coir and Cowries belonging to Government	6	13	0						

ACCOUNT Particulars of Receipts and Disbursements of the Produce, &c.—(*Continued.*)

Particulars.	Amount.			Total.		
	Rs.	A.	P.	Rs.	A.	P.
Sale proceeds of 41 Candies of Rice at 13 to 16 Rupees per Candy.....	559	14	9			
Do 4 Jars Jaggry.....	19	0	0			
Do. 680 pieces of Coomblamass Fish ...	20	0	0			
Do. of 1 Candy 16 Maunds 12 lbs. Cowry at 109½ Rupees per Candy.....	199	7	1			
Amount realized by the Ameen being rent on account of Parambas...	981	12	0	2,228	8	4
Sale proceeds of 2,46,021 Cocoanuts... ...	1,976	8	11			
Do. Jaggry.....	264	5	7			
Do. 17 Candies 1 Maunds Coir... ...	351	6	0			
Do. of 298 pieces of Comblamass fish... ...	9	14	4			
Do. of 5 Candies and 20 Parras of Rice.....	101	11	9			
Do. of 1 Candy and 8 Maunds Cowries... ...	56	0	0			
Do. of Firewood...	2	8	0			
Gain by exchange of 74 Sovereigns sent with remittance by the Ameen...	20	13	1			
Re-fund, being balance of advances made on account of pay, &c., in Fusly 1267... ...	1,809	2	7			
				6,820	14	7

Particulars.				Amount.			Total.		
				Rs.	A.	P.	Rs.	A.	P.
By charges attending the wheighment of 800 Candies of Coir sold by auction...	14	5	9						
By hire for conveying 186 Candies of Coir to be stored in a bank-shall near the Sea Custom House and for bringing back to the latter place the quantity remaining un-sold...	23	9	5						
By Cash paid, being boat hire for conveying from Beypoor to the Calicut Sea Custom House 308 Bundles of Coir, belonging to Government from an Oddom from Kavarty Island which ran into the Beypoor river from stress of weather...	10	0	0						
Charges attending the weighment of Coir remaining unsold...	1	12	2						
				83	7	0			
Amount re-funded, being deposit received from a purchaser of Cowries, the original sale having been cancelled	15	0	0						
Charges for advertizing in the Bombay Gazette the sale of the Dèvi produce.	15	4	8						
Pay of a Goomastah and Kolkars entertained in the Calicut Sea Custom House and Sauderward charges...	172	9	3						
Paid for 75 Robbins of Rice sent to the Akaty and 3 other Islands and which were lost by the wreck of the boat..... ...	220	4	0						
Amount realized from the sale of the Rice saved from the wreck of an Oddom which conveyed 100 Moodas to the Island... ...	53	0	8						
Cost and charges of 20 Maunds of Salt sent to the above Islands lost by the wreck of the vessel...	23	15	7						
Advanced on account of pay, &c., of the establishment in the Devi Islands.....	1,141	6	7						
Paid freight of the Oddoms engaged by the present Ameen to visit the several Islands.	25	0	0						
Advanced to Koyassen of Kalpany Island for the repair of his vessel at Calicut.....	50	0	0						
				1,716	8	9			
Sauderward charges...	1	9	0						
Freight of vessels engaged by the dismissed Ameen to visit the several Islands ...	11	8	0						
Paid for 36½ lbs. of Tortoise-shell... ...	73	0	0						
Paid for 387¼ Seers Cowries...	35	2	5						
Paid for 6 Bundles and 58¾ Polams of Coir.	4	5	1						
				125	8	6			
Ameen's pay from April 1856 to December 1858, at 35 Rupees per mensem... ...	1,155	0	0						
Deduct refunds... ...	181	14	10						
				973	1	2			
Pay of the Goomastah from do. to do., at 8 Rupees per month.....	264	0	0						
Deduct refund. ...	41	5	4						
				222	10	8			
Pay of 2 Peons entertained from April 1856 to August 1858, at 5 Rupees each.....	290	0	0						
				290	0	0			
Pay of 1 do. from September 1858 to 18th January 1859.	22	14	5						
				22	14	5			
Pay of the Adigherry of the Akathy Island, from 1st April 1856 to 10th April 1857, at 5 Rupees per month.....	61	10	8						
Deduct amount received by him... ...	16	10	8						
				45	0	0			

ACCOUNT Particulars of Receipts and Disbursements of the Produce, &c.—*(Continued.)*

Particulars.	Amount.			Total.			Particulars.				Amount.			Total.		
	Rs.	A.	P.	Rs.	A.	P.					Rs.	A.	P.	Rs.	A.	P.
							Pay of the Adigherry from January 1858 to January 1859, at 5 Rupees per month...	65	0	0						
							Pay of 2 Peons from April 1856 to August 1858, at 3 Rupees each per month.....	174	0	0						
							Pay of the Adigherry at Kaverty from 1st April 1856 to August 1858, at 5 Rupees per month....	145	0	0						
							Pay of 2 Peons from do. to do., at 3 Rupees each per month.....	174	0	0						
							Pay of the Adigherry employed at Androthe from April 1856 to April 1857, at 5 Rupees per month.....	65	0	0						
							Pay of 2 Peons from April 1856 to May 1857, at 3 Rupees each per month.....	84	0	0						
											2,260	10	3			
								Rbs.	Srs.							
							Paid in Rice for 323 Maunds and 97½ Polams Coir.....	108	19	0						
							Paid for 2,688 Seers of Cowries..... ...	154	40	0						
							Paid for 6½ lbs. of Tortoise-shell... ...	6	5	0						
							Sundry charges.....	38	6	0						
								307	20	0						
							At the average rate of Rs. 2-5-9 $\frac{2}{100}$ per Robbin of Rice..				725	4	9			
								Mds.	Srs.							
							Paid in Salt for 195 Maunds and 54½ Polams of Coir...	132	38	0						
							Paid for 445 Seers of Cowries...	46	17	0						
							Paid for $\frac{3}{8}$th lbs. of Tortoise-shell... ...	0	25	0						
							Sundry charges...	7	22	0						
								187	12	0						
							At the average rate of Rupees 1-0-11 $\frac{54}{100}$ per Maund when Salt was sold at the Gollahs at 1 Rupee per Maund.....				198	8	4			
														3,309	15	10
							Provisions supplied on account of Government to the Oddoms which came from Menakay...	112	4	5						
							Paid for Arsenic sent to Menakay for destroying rats.....	3	12	0						
							Paid for Gunny-bags for filling in Rice and Cowries belonging to Government and the charges incurred for landing the above and Cocoanuts brought from the Menakay Islands...	51	14	11						
							Paid to the heirs of the Chingala Moydeen Cootty, late Ameen of Menakay Island, being pay due to him.....	38	6	5						
							Paid reward to Candamanja female and another of the Menakay Island, as per Government sanction, dated 21st May 1858.....	200	0	0						
							Advanced to 3 Peons appointed to Menakay Island, being their pay for 3 months, March to May 1859..	63	0	0						
							PARTICULARS of advances made to the Ameen and Goomastah of the Menakay Island.									
							Pay of the Ameen from February to May 1859, in part.....	40	0	0						
							Pay of the Goomastah from do. to. do.....	16	0	0						
							Advanced on account of salary to a Havildar who returned from Menakay Island for March 1859...	10	0	0						
							Do. of 6 Peons, at 7 Rupees each for February and March 1859...	84	0	0						
							Pay of 1 Peon for February 1859.....	7	0	0						
							Pay of 1 do. from 25th November to 19th December 1857, at 5¼ Rupees per month...	4	4	3						
											630	10	0			
							Salary of the Ameen of Menakay from January 1858 to January 1859, at 35 Rs. per month...	455	0	0						

ACCOUNT Particulars of Receipts and Disbursements of the Produce, &c.—(*Continued.*)

Particulars.	Amount.			Total.			Particulars.	Amount.			Total.		
	Rs.	A.	P.	Rs.	A.	P.		Rs.	A.	P.	Rs.	A.	P.
							Pay of 1 Goomastah from 18th January 1858 to 17th January 1859, at 12 Rupees per month 144 0 0 Amount unpaid... ... 6 9 3						
							Deduct paid...	137	6	9			
							Pay of 1 Goomastah from 18th January 1858 to January 1859 at 12 Rupees per month.....	149	6	9			
							Pay of 1 Jemadar from 18th January 1858 to 17th January 1859, at 14 Rupees per month 168 0 0 Deduct refunded.. ... 7 0 0						
							Balance paid..	161	0	0			
							Pay of 2 Havildars from 18th January 1858 to 17th January 1859, at 10 Rs. each per month 240 0 0 Deduct refund..... ... 25 0 0						
							Net amount paid....	215	0	0			
							Pay of 1 do. from 18th January 1858 to January 1859, at 10 Rupees per month	124	8	3			
							Pay of 13 Peons from do. to do. at 7 Rupees each per do. .... 1,133 1 8 Deduct refund.. ... 38 8 0						
							Net amount paid.....	1,094	9	8			
							Pay of 6 Peons from 18th January 1858 to 17th January 1859, at 7 Rupees each per month..... 504 0 0 Deduct refund.... ... 17 8 0						
							Net amount paid...	486	8	0			
							Pay of 1 Peon from 18th January to April 1858, at 7 Rupees per month..... ...	24	2	7			
							Sundry charges incurred for the subsistence of prisoners and of the crew of the boat which brought them from Menakay to Calicut.....	11	0	0			
							Balance in the hands of the Ameen after deducting the sum remitted by him in cash, and amount paid on account of the salary of the establishment as well as other expenditure on the Islands.....	1,000	0	0			
								3,858	10	0	4,489	4	0
							Total Rupees.....				22,922	1	1
							Add amount carried to the credit of Government on account of arrears due by the Beebee of Cannanore.....				16,000	0	0
							By balance on hand 30th June 1859.....				2,213	3	1
Rupees.....				41,135	4	2	Grand Total, Rupees...				41,135	4	2

E. E.

(Signed) P. GRANT,

Collector.

ENC. 2.

COMPARATIVE statement shewing the Establishment now existing, and that proposed to be entertained at the Laccadive Islands.

Islands.	PRESENT ESTABLISHMENT. Designation.	Amount of pay per month.	Total.	PROPOSED ESTABLISHMENT. Designation.	Amount of pay per month.	Total.	COMPARISON. Increase.	Decrease.	REMARKS.
Agathy...	Adigherry. ...	5 0 0		Ameen...	20 0 0				
	2 Kolkars. ...	6 0 0		1 Goomastah...	7 0 0				
			11 0 0	2 Kolkars...	10 0 0				
						37 0 0	26 0 0	0 0 0	
Kavarthy...	Adigherry. ...	5 0 0		Ameen...	20 0 0				
	2 Kolkars. ...	6 0 0		1 Goomastah...	7 0 0				
			11 0 0	2 Kolkars...	10 0 0				
						37 0 0	26 0 0	0 0 0	
Anthrothe.	Adigherry. ...	5 0 0		Ameen...	20 0 0				
	2 Kolkars. ...	6 0 0		1 Goomastah...	7 0 0				
			11 0 0	2 Kolkars...	10 0 0				
						37 0 0	26 0 0	0 0 0	
Kalpany...	Adigherry. ...	5 0 0		Ameen...	20 0 0				
	2 Kolkars. ...	6 0 0		1 Goomastah...	7 0 0				
			11 0 0	2 Kolkars...	10 0 0				
						37 0 0	26 0 0	0 0 0	
For the above 4 islands.	Ameen... ...	35 0 0		.....	0 0 0				
	Goomastah....	8 0 0		.....	0 0 0				
	2 Kolkars. ...	10 0 0		.....	0 0 0				
			53 0 0			0 0 0	0 0 0	53 0 0	
Menakay...	Ameen... ...	35 0 0		Ameen...	50 0 0				
	2 Goomastahs	24 0 0		1 Goomastah...	12 0 0				
	1 Jemadar ...	14 0 0		2 Havildars at 10 Rs. each...	20 0 0				
	3 Havildars...	30 0 0		10 Kolkars at 5 Rs. each...	50 0 0	132 0 0	0 0 0	118 0 0	
	21 Kolkars ...	147 0 0							
			250* 0 0	Total Rupees...	...	280 0 0	104 0 0	171 0 0	* Of these 1 Goomastah, 1 Jemadar, 2 Havildars and 5 Peons have already been dispensed with, as shewn in the letter, paragraph 5.
Calicut Sea Custom House...	Goomastah....	10 0 0		Goomastah...	12 0 0				
	4 Kolkars. ...	16 0 0		4 Kolkars at 4 Rs. each...	16 0 0	28 0 0	2 0 0	0 0 0	
			26 0 0						
				Grand Total, Rs...	...	308 0 0	106 0 0	171 0 0	
							Deduct Increase...	106 0 0	
							Net Decrease...	65 0 0	

E. E.

(Signed) P. GRANT,
Collector.

Copy enc. Letter to C
of 1850 No 3.

Table

Buy Price of Sale	Where Sold	Sale price	Freight	Profits
	Bengal	30 Rs. p. Candy.		
2 Bags Nos 1	Mena Koy & Maldives			
	Galle and Malabar	8 or 10 Rs. per 100 pieces from 80 fishes.		
	Pulo Penang	6 Slop basins for Rs 9/4		
30 p. Rs 1.	Malabar	10 Rs p. 1000.		
	Bengal	10 or 20 Rs p. 1c (N.B. 10 p. C given in every where)		
	Bengal	Rs 15–22 p. M.c or Rs 150 p. Candy		
	Maldives Galle. Mena Koy & Maldives.	1 Candy — 30 Rs		

(Signed) C. G. Thomas
A. A. Coll.r

(True Copies)
W Robinson
Acting Coll.r

Article	Where Shipped	Purchase price	Purchased
Coir	Mena Koy		1 Bag Rs 3
Salt	Goa		
"Mās"	Mena Koy		
Meenshakkai	Mena Koy / Maldives	Bulk in Mena Koy 4 p. fan or 8 Rs. Bengal rice	
Cocoanuts	Mena Koy / Maldives / Galle.		30 p. Rs 1.
Cowries	Mena Koy / Maldives		Bulk 8 p. fan or 2 p. salt 1 Bag p. 1 Candy — 1
Dry fish	Mena Koy		7 Rds Rs p. 1 Rs
Rice	Balasore	1 Candy — 7 Rs	

Cen[ts] Rs 4

No 24
1850

Calicut, 30th April 1850.

From E. G Thomas Esqre
Special Assistant Collector

To W. Robinson Esqre
Acting Collector of Malabar

Sir,

1. I have the honor to lay before you all the information I have been able to obtain regarding the sources of Amusement of the Becher Commanders income from the Island of Tenakoy.

2. The Becher as you are aware, declined to co-operate in any way in the arrangements that had to be made for the attachment of the Island & the keeping of her due income from it.

3. No accounts whatever were forthcoming, and my only informants have been the people on the Island itself, and these, from the hostility they have lately shewn to Government, are not deserving of over much credit. I have however carefully examined the Island personally & Compared the statements of different persons, and I had the assistance

assistance throughout of Kupan Nalikan, the most intelligent & loyal man in Menakoy, and while I believe a pretty near approximation has been obtained to the real state of the Beebee's ordinary income from the Island, we may at least I think, be satisfied that nothing has been overstated -

4 Another difficulty in preparing an accurate return is, that there are hardly any money transactions on the Island; every exchange is conducted through a system of barter, moreover, the Beebee's property when realized is not sold there or in Malabar, but is shipped to Bengal & there sold at a greatly enhanced price -

5 The Beebee's income from Menakoy consists not simply of her property on this Island, but of this & of the trade which these goods chiefly aid her in carrying on; the profits of this trade it is of course extremely difficult to apportion -

6 I have however made as complete a table as I could of the average prices of the Island & elsewhere and have made an attempt to ascertain the expences & returns of the trade -

See Miscellaneous Notes Java: 74-8

Not

7 Not the smallest of my difficulties was that the people speak nothing (with very few exceptions) but Malli. I am with but one individual (a woman) who could speak Malayalum properly -

8 I prefer thus much to prevent too great accuracy being attributed to the ensuing statement -

9 The sources of the Beebee's income may be arranged under 5 heads -

1. The proceeds of her own property -
2. Taxes -
3. Monopoly -
4. Miscellaneous items -
5. Trade.

Beebees private property -

The greater part of the Island of Menakoy belongs to the Beebee in jenmam right; a part of it is rented out @ 4 Rupees per

* See Note A.

ter on a tenure called "Athery Patom" another

⊗ See Note B.

portion on what is called "Valia Patom", & here a sum of money is levied as the rent of a track of land & the rest (by far the greater portion) is kept in her own hands,

× The approximate amount of income derivable from all these different sources is shown in tables -

and the proceeds (Cocoanuts & Sugar) collected for her through her agents, a small

small part of the Jemmoom property is made over for the support of Mosques &c

11. The coccanuts are allowed to fall to the ground & are then picked up and collected monthly by paid Coolies & stored away till the time arrives for them all to be shipped to Bengal — See Miscellaneous Notes para 87–91

12. The number of Coccanut trees on the Island I was unable through the ill conduct of my peons, to obtain, but they are stated by the Islanders to be about 10 lacs in number, 9 of them at least belonging to the Beebee — See Letter No 23.

13. The annual produce it is likewise impossible accurately to ascertain —

14 Last year the Beebee's agent says he sent her ——— 21,660.

In the 8 months of the present native year he had collected & has now partly made over to the Ameen ——— × 133347.

Making on average for the year of about ——— 35,0000.

Rupan Malikan, a former agent of the Beebee says he once sent in a year but that the number was usually far greater ——— 100200.

He remembers his father having sent ——— 110000.

One of the monthly gatherings took place while I was on the Island and amounted to about ——— 7975.

Sugar.

15. It being necessary for the health of the tree that it should be occasionally pruned of juice by the tree Climbers 4 or 5 men of this class are from time to time employed thus in various parts of the Beebee's estate & while thus extracting juice from them pay the Beebee (according to the part of the Island in which they are at work) 20 or 24 Adulahs of Sugar monthly. ×

× This difference is not believed in consequence of any great variety in the tree but to compensate for loss to Beebees general property which is known to ensue when the tree Climber has pas in the case of the Addulah men) to live with his family on the middle of the Beebee's estate, & cannot return at night to live among the other people ———

16. The Beebees income from

from sugar, both that paid as the price of the privilege of bleeding her trees, and that paid as poll tax, amounted last year to 2445 adabahs, and in the first 5 months of this year to 2090.

* of this there had been sent to the Broker before my arrival 479.
Made over to the Queen in the Island 1211.

11 People pay 25 Adabahs annually as poll tax
27 Ditto pay 45 Adabahs as Barbers' tree Climbers partly as rent & partly as tax.
10 People pay 12 Adabahs monthly } besides.
15 Ditto do 24 do do }

the above annual payments simply as rent.

17. These numbers are not fixed but vary annually, for if a tree Climber chooses to go to sea he is at perfect liberty to do so, and has then to pay Coir instead of Sugar.

18. The taxes are as follows: Taxes.

Poll tax. Every married male & female (except the Malikans) must pay a poll tax. If a tailor in Coir - if a tree Climber, in Sugar. in the former case every male must pay annually 1/2 Sholam of Coir, every female 1/2 Sholam - in the latter each male who Climbs his own trees or those belonging to any of the

the Islanders pay 15 Adabas of Sugar if he has had a portion of the Barbees trees handed over to him he pays 45 Adabahs. As a matter of favour the tax of one person in every house is remitted.

19. There are at present in Menakoy 413 houses liable to be called on for the poll tax and were the whole a peperment levied, as the list is prepared in Coir, the quantity due would be 1203 1/4 candies but those who follow the profession of the Maylachenies are payed in Sugar instead.

20. Last year the number of those paying Coir was 375 households
and those paying Sugar 38.
and the proportion of the number changes but little from year to year.

21. It will be observed that the tax falls far heavier on those that stay at home than those who serve as Crews, since 1/2 Sholam of Coir is valued on the Island at Rs 1/2 while 15 Adabahs of Sugar are worth more than Rupees 3 1/2.

22. A payment of 5 Candies of rice is demanded for every voyage made to Bengal about

about 50 Candies are levied under this head annually -

23. Rupees 200 is paid for the permission to build a repel fit for the Bengal trade -

Monopoly.

24. The Bebee monopolizes the sale of Cowries; the Cowries are fished by the women of the Island, men being too idle, twice in the Month, during the Months from June to November, at low water, at a depth of 2 feet, and are brought in by the Bebee @ the rate of 1 Bonyna of Cowries for 1 of rice, or two of salt and afterwards sold in Bengal.

* usually about 400 in number.

Miscel. Items.

25. At the close of the fishing season 8 Mash fish are expected, but not rigourously levied from each Mash boat -

✓

26. In the Southern part of the Island grows a plant with a tuberous edible root. the people are allowed once in three years to dig this root on this occasion they pay the Bebee

* called by the Islanders "Hithala"

✓

A woman 1 Kathy of roots

A man 2 Ballums of powdered root ✓

27. The Bebee probably loses more in

in Cocoanuts, than he gains by the payment to her -

28. Once a year the Islanders are lent the Bebees ropes & Cocoanut leaves and are allowed to make a large net composed partly of this & partly of real net with which they drag for the fish upon the shoreside of the lagoon 1/3 of the haul goes to the Bebee -

29. The gains from these three items together are trifling in the extreme -

30. Fines are levied from 20Rs. to 200Rs. for trespass on her property & other offences -

Benevolences

31. The Bebee occasionally applies to the wealthier inhabitants of Kenakoy for a loan which is never repaid - Sometimes the sum asked is paid down on the spot sometimes in instalments: if not paid in full at once, what is left unpaid is insisted on as due, till it is paid & the Bebee has ample means through her agents on the Island to enforce submission -

32. These exactions which exactly answer on a small scale to our "benevolences" form no inconsiderable portion of the Bebee's income from these Islands, they press about

every

every other year in building a Ship some time upon near Cannanore she made the Menakoy merchants thus advance the expences of expecting it, by Rupees 6000 -

33. On another occasion she got Rs. 1500 from each of the 2 Chief men & 1000 Rs. from their relatives and Connections -

34. Ally Malikan (aged 64) has thus since he became his own Master paid her Rupees 9000 -

35. The merchants Complain bitterly of this heavy irregular exaction, and it is the only grievance they mention against the Beebee -

36. Menakoy would be of little Trade value comparatively to the Beebee without her trade -

37. Some fifteen years ago the Beebee owned 7 Menakoy Vessels (called "Odies") and five Ships: but always entrusting them to Menakoy men she has suffered many losses by shipwreck and now owns only 3 "Odies" & one Ship of about 120 Cons - In the former she ships to Bengal her Menakoy Coconuts & Coories and to Anjengo or Jaffle her

her sugar. at Jaffle & Maldives more Coconuts are taken on to be sold at Calcutta & on the return voyage rice &c. is brought -

38 Coconuts which on the Malabar Coast would fetch 10 Rs. per 1000 Command in Calcutta 18 or 20 per 1000 & rice bought there for Rs. 2½ per Bhodah may be had at Bullasore for Rupees 7 per Candy of 12 Bhodahs, it is evident therefore the profits of the trade must be large: the products of a Menakoy form the staple of it, and a Menakoy man & Command the Vessels, without the products of her estates in Menakoy I doubt whether the Beebee could afford to send her vessels to Bengal, they are not copper bottomed and must be carefully looked after or in a short time may be much injured by the weeds and shellfish that settle on them -

39 Besides these larger vessels the Beebee owns a large boat used in the Bonito fishery: the plan is for the owner to keep up the boat at his own expence and give food and clothing with an occasional small present to four men two of whom are styled Moppans (head men) whenever the boat is taken out these men

engage

engage whom they will to accompany them from
N. A in number the owner claims 1/4 per cent of the
Catch of fish and the remainder is divided among
the crew 2 shares for each of the Nosspans and
one for every one else: the profits to the owner
are precarious -

See Privat. Notes Para. 92 -

40. The Barbee has the following
sources of Expenditure in Mrna Roy or connect
ed with it -

41. The salary of her agent, who has
made over to him a piece of land and its
trees producing about 8 Chalams of Coir, & 720
in all
Adubahs of Sugar worth about Rs. 200 -

42. The pay of the crews of her vessels. See para. 82 of Privat. Notes -
The purchase money of the Cocanuts -

43. The Cooly hire paid to those who
collect & fallen Cocanuts from her plantations -

44. The monthly payment of Cocoa-
-nuts each to a band of 50 or 60 youths called
"Athiru Kuttigal" who are bound in return
to assist in thatching all
the Barbee's buildings,
vessels &c placing the
water on board her vessels
and otherwise making
themselves

× These consist of the Kutcheri (a house with 2 large Go-downs) mosque and 3 or 4 small store godowns where the Cocanuts are kept till sent to Bengal -

themselves generally useful at the time of the em-barkation of the Barbee's things and people for Bengal and on their return -

45. The payment of a few Cocanuts each to a barber, midwife, excommunicator, and Sexton -

46. The apportionment of pieces of land of small value for the support of some mosques & those performing service in them -

47. This as well as mention here what property of the Barbee's found on the Island -

1 Ody with poles anchors water casks &c -
1 Nosspan Boat -
600 Parahs of salt - 1200 1/4 — Not reported
3774 Adubahs of Sugar
31 Barals of Coir 1911 — Undetermined
23773 Cocanuts -
29 Candies & 240 Parries of rice -

48. Intending according to your wishes as far as possible to continue the Barbee's system of raising an income or Revenue (whatever it may be called) from this Island I had little trouble after obtaining the above information, in giving the necessary orders to the Ameen -

J

I desired the Ameen to continue the
49. collection of Cocoanuts, Sugar & Coir, both as products
of Beebee's private property and as Rajes as usual.
50. The craft that I found on the Island
was that sent there by the Beebee for the pur-
=poses of trade with the Islanders. I doubted as
will be seen below the advisability of interfer- See para 57 &c
=ing with the Beebees trade, and therefore &
determining not to take possession of this at
present I directed the Ameen to leave it in
charge of her agent Ally Thalikan found till
he got further orders to pay for the Cowries in
Money - The price hitherto given for it by the
Tribes of Cannanore has been 1 Rayna of
rice or 2 of salt for 1 of Cowries and 1 Rayna
of rice is worth about 1 Anna. I directed the
Ameen therefore to give 1 Anna per Rayna
of Cowries -
51. The large vessel (Ally) I told him
not as yet to take charge of but to leave it
in the hands of the Beebees Agent -
52. The smaller one he was to em-
=ploy in Rajs fishing as usual -
53. As many things had to be con-
=sidered ere it could be determined what would
be

be the best course to pursue as to the sale of
the various articles, and as the probabilities
seemed that they might be sold any where &
with better profit than on the Coast of Malabar,
I directed him to keep all the things till he
got orders as to how he should dispose of them -
54. As desired by you I directed him
to forward a report to you at least once in 6
Months, except during the height of the Monsoon
Months, when, if nothing emergent called for
it, he might wait till the usual season for
sailing for the Coast arrived -
55. The points which remain to be
decided on, and regarding which orders should
go as early as possible to Menakoy are the
following:
(1) Whether with her other property the Arbi-
or sea going vessels of the Beebees are to be
attached.
In this event whether, to secure the
profits which would usually accrue to her, the
trade by means of them is to be continued
under Government authority and supervision -
And what steps are then to be taken
for securing the necessary Commander Crew &c &c
Whether

(2) Whether the salt now in deposit on the Island and brought there for the purposes of being bartered for Cowries is to be attached by Government and so applied? or whether it shall be returned with every thing else connected with trade to her agent, and the Cowries purchased either for money or for salt imported there by Government for the purpose?

(3) Where the products of the Island forming the Berbers returns are to be sold?

(4) Whether the various Chronicles of the Berbee of Commonore are to be kept up on the Island or any or all of them resumed for the present?

56. I will state what occurs to me on each of these 4 questions.

57. Annoyance of trouble and hazard to trade would attach to any attempt to carry on a trade contrary to the wishes of the Berbee in her own vessels manned by men far more under her influence than that of the Government in ill built ill rigged vessels, and so much loss would certainly accrue upon this petty trade, the services of English Commanders (without whom I am informed insurance is refused on Native vessels) were paid for that it seems to me out of the question.

58. The vessels not being Copper bottomed

(2) Sale of the Products.

⊗ Para 38.

and would soon be quickly covered with shell fish and weeds and as they are therefore liable without care to be soon seriously injured it will not be easy to lay them up for long either in the water or on the dry sandy beach where the heat would dry them equally.

59. Two other courses present themselves. (1) to attached property they might if necessary be sold.

60. Nothing of the ordinary Coast ing they would probably hardly find purchasers out of Phenakoy, and there the number of those who could purchase would be very small.

61. (2) They might be excluded from the attachment and the Berbee informed that Government took no charge of them, and that she was at liberty to do with them as she chose.

62. The latter seems to me the simplest and only advisable course.

63. As I have shewn elsewhere ⊗ Phenakoy Cocoanuts fetch nearly double in Bengal what they do in Phenakoy - the sugar also has a fanciful value with the people of the Maldives and

Galle

× Because they are taken in the latter place, and bought by their size for making into oil in the former: Phenakoy Cocoanuts are very small.

fable which it has not in Malabar - Coir and

Cowries have also hitherto to form with the rest of the Cargo / Cocoanuts / to Bengal -

* I have not been able to ascertain whether a better price is obtained there for these articles than could be had in Malabar -

64. The enhanced value of the articles is not the only reason for the trip to Bengal: the return voyage gives at least its full share in the profits of the whole voyage; at Balasore, & near Bengal, rice is to be had for Rs. 7 a Candy which will sell in Malabar for 4 times that sum: it is also largely supplied by these Islanders to the people of Galle and the Maldives -

65. The Chief Merchants profit both of the Berbee and of the private traders of Benakoy arises from a carrying trade, but without a Cargo from Benakoy for the outward voyage it could hardly be continued for neither the one nor the other could either afford to go out in ballast or has the Capital to purchase a Cargo - See paras. 62 & Viscount. Minute

66. The Berbee's income is derived from her receipts in Benakoy, and from the trade which these receipts in kind enable her to carry on, without them as I have before remarked I think it probable she will not be able to trade -

67. It appears therefore to me that if the things are brought to the Coast and sold they will bring in a smaller return & the Berbee will entirely lose her trading profits -

68. The simplest course for avoiding both losses to her is for her to take her own things at a valuation in Benakoy & port them in here & the like in her own vessels, and carry on her usual trade: this valuation might either be the Current price in Benakoy or a mean between that and the price in Bengal -

69. They might also be sold on the Island but the merchants there would not promise (when asked by me) to give more than Rupees 10 per Candy i.e. about the same or less than the price on the Coast -

70. The Cocoanuts are not injured by waiting a time - but the sugar should not be kept more than 6 months - some of that attached by the former Monsoon, and not removed by the Berbee when she proposed herself for her other returns from the Island, has already been greatly deteriorated -

Berbice income

Article	Amount	Price Purchase	Price Sale	Freight Profits
				Rose 1357
Bengal rice & Candies from cash of 10 ships going to Bengal	50 Candies	600 Rodahs at R2 1/4 each (in Demerara)	R2 1350	
Cowries	44 3/4 Maunds (in store this year)	at R2 1/2 per Md. (in Demerara)	R2 112 3/4	Usual price R2 15 per Md. last year R2 22 last average R2 20 at Bengal = 90
Sugar	2500 Rdahs	7 Rdahs R1 (in Demerara)	35 f. 2. a at R2 20 per 100 = 700	
Coconuts	35,000 (this year)			
Coir	used on the Island			

995-2

Signed R. G. Thomas
J. A. Collier

Copy in a letter to E.
of 27th Jany 1860 No 3

22

History

1. The following are the few circumstances concerning the former state of the Island and people of Tenaka-ky which I could learn from the Islanders: much more might probably be learnt from the Sheka of Cannanore or the Sultan of the Maldives, if either of them chose to be communicative: a written history of considerable antiquity was accidentally destroyed in the Island some years ago by fire-

2. The Islanders use Mupelanee of the "Sunny" or "Vasty" Tech.

3. Their language is that of the Maldive Islanders and is found in no other country though there is a great resemblance between it and the Cingalese, in religion and all (some the customs also they say) there is no difference whatever between them and the Maldive people-

4. In the Maldives there are

many

many songs commemorating the struggle that took place there when Mahomedanism first entered as elsewhere by the sword, and it has now been the exclusive religion & there for about 800 years -

5 There are no recollections of such a religious struggle in Mena Roy and the Islanders therefore believing that they undoubtedly first came from the Maldives the nearest land, date the occurrence somewhere under 800 years ago.

6. There are some small subterranean passages in one corner of the Island, of the history of which the present inhabitants are quite ignorant and which probably served as places of refuge to a former race who lived here at an earlier period - see para: 36.

7. I could obtain no account of the way in which or the date when the Bebee of Cannanore got possession of the Island. She is said to have assumed the position of proprietor as well as Sovereign of

of the Island on the occasion of the murder of one of her agents, and she now owns by far the greater part -

8. She is said that her sway over the Islanders was more powerful and oppressive before them since she was conquered by the English, from that time the people have assumed to themselves more independence

9. A considerable change was wrought in the relative position of the Bebee and the people on the occasion of a quarrel 30 years ago between one of the Bebee's Captains and his crew, the latter mutinied and the matter having been referred to the Bebee's agent on the Island the people clubbed together and refused to tolerate his interference: from that time the Bebee's power here has been more of influence than of despotic authority, this however, from a discreet use of the power of obliging or disobliging them given her by her landed papers.

Note. Nearly all the small and some of the larger vessels in the Island are built from

sions there, and by the number of appoint-
ments which she had Boat for sailors pilots
and Captains in her various vessels, has al-
ways been very considerable -

11. About the year 1850 the crews
of the some of the Islanders vessels on the
return voyage from Bengal mutinied at Galle
and refusing to touch as desired by the Owners
at the Maldives sailed straight back to
Menakoy: the merchants represented to the
Beebee that if their trade was liable to
be thus interfered with by sudden freaks
of the populace their profits would be small
& they would be wholly unable to comply
with the Beebee's occasional calls for loans

---

remarkably hard strong old cocoanut trees
found on the Beebee's property and on no other part
of the Island. The boats are chiefly pegged and the wood
for these pegs for the knees &c and the rollers on which
they are launched and drawn up again are taken from
the most part from the Beebees land with her permission,
as also are firewood & much fibre for ropes from a jungle tree.

The monthly payment of cocoanuts
to those who collect her nuts for her is a great
source of support to them

and the Beebee therefore ordered the sailors to
appear before her at Cunnamore: the order was
disregarded and on agent (Soopy Kooty) being
sent to the Island had many of the people
flogged with a Cat o'nine tails and many fined
the Beebee at the same time levied a loan
of Rupees 200 each from several of the merchants -

Physical Description

11. Menakoy is a Coral Island
with the usual characteristics of such places.
a map of Coral about 5 p. Miles in diameter
& from east to West and from North to South
has risen from the depths of the unfathom-
able ocean apparently almost in a columnar
form, and appearing above the water in an
oblong shape forms an Island on the east
side with a large lagoon encircled by a
reef to the West of it -

12. The Island at the broadest part
is less than a mile in width the lagoon is
about four miles broad and 8 long -

The

13. The reef for about ⅓ of its length is visible at low water, over the northern ⅓ of the reef there is never less than 2 or 3 feet of water. near the South end of the reef an Islet[x] has been formed on it about 100 yards square. at the middle of the reef there is a small barren Islet 10 yards square. near the north end another small barren Islet 10 yards square was thrown up in 2 fathom water by the Storm of 1847.

[x] there are about 50 Cocoanut trees on it.

14 The reef consists of flat rocks, 20 yards in width with stones, large and small, loose and connected, sometimes covering, and sometimes sparingly scattered over it. the water very gradually deepens on the outer side for about 100 yards where the Coral formation ends with a precipice. in one side of a boat may be seen the clear white bottom with rocks and fish. on the other deep blue sea, within 100 yards of this it is said that frequently there is no bottom to be found. this appears to be still more the case on the east side of the Island.

15 There are 3 entrances to the lagoon only one of which, that at the west is adapted for large vessels. over this latter there is at low water 2 fathoms and in ordinary high tides 3 fathoms of water.

16 The depth of water within the lagoon is very various about ⅓ of the lagoon is less than 6 feet deep and much of this only 3 or 4. there are large portions with 6 and 7 fathoms of water. a white coral sand covers most of the bottom of the lagoon. small & rocks however abound in parts and here and there rise precipitously to near the surface. they are composed of living coral of numerous shapes and colours and often spring from the bottom of sudden hollows of 7 fathom water where the neighbourhood is only 1 and 2, and in these cases the angle at which the sand stands is astonishing. the sand sides of these pits being frequently hardly out of the perpendicular for 20 or 30 feet

feet: the water is so clear that every move-
ment of fish turtles &c even the eyes of
large fish may be seen without difficulty
in 7 fathom water –

17. The lagoon abounds with turtle
a large shark (called "Serendy" on the Coast)
and many fishes fit for food –

18. In 2 hauls of a large drag net
1000 yards long 6 turtles and many fish
were taken –

19. The usual anchoring ground
is outside the west entrance where there
is a bottom of flat rocks and sand for a
distance of about 200 yards very gradually
deepening –

20. It is the opinion of the inhab-
itants that no changes whatever take
place in the depth of the various parts
of the lagoon and that no new rocks are
formed. I found the Coral insect however
alive and at work within the lagoon –

Island

21. The Island of Jokenakoy is
about
6 miles long and in the broadest part
3/4 mile wide the north 1/2 of the Island is
a very narrow strip very gradually widening
from 20 yards to the width which I have named
without 1/2 mile of the south end

22. The north end extends in a
point considerably beyond the reef out into
the sea and is therefore considerably exposed –

23. No changes as it have been
noted by the people –

24. The accompanying sketch may
give some idea of the shape of the Island
and lagoon &c –

25. The soil of the Island consists
of coarse of powdered coral with a slight
admixture of vegetable matter –

26. The greater part of Jokenakoy
is quite flat and so near the level of the
sea that water may usually be found
at depths varying from 1 foot to 6: the water
though a little brackish does not seem to
be unwholesome as the people are generously
healthy

healthy and seem to have an ordinary average
of sole people among them -

29 The overlying flat rock common-
ly found in the Laccadives has been removed
at an unknown period from large portions
of the Island and heaped up into a long ridge
20 feet high and ¼ a mile long parallel
with and close to the east side of the Island.
the material thus removed has also formed
numerous other mounds of which one (about
25 feet high) is the highest point on the Island:
towards the south end of the Island as well
as in the North I am inclined to think this
overlying rock never existed, for there are no
mounds whatever, yet water is within a
foot of the top: there is no rock to be found
on digging and in one part 200 or 300 yards
square the land is so damp and marshy with
a pool in the middle of it that it is with
difficulty traversable -

28 The cocoanut trees in this part
are weak and not very productive -

The

29 The overlying rock where found
is usually only about 6 inches thick and is
a kind of concrete composed of sand with bits
of coral and shells -

31 I sunk a pit in a part of the
Island of more recent formation and found
loose sand for 8 feet then a stratum of rather
coarser sand and under this at about 12 feet
from the surface a layer of detached bits
of flat sandstone apparently in course of
formation into a flat sandstone rock: there
was moisture here and water 2 feet or low-

31 There is no part of the Island
destitute of trees, in the south portion it is
thickly covered with jungle and cocoanut
trees, in the north more sparingly -

32 There are no dogs on the Island,
rats abound to the destruction of cocoanut
plantations, also cats & Cows and an
many goats: no snakes or scorpions: Curlew
sand snipes of various kinds a large
grey crane and a water hen stay there and

Golden

gibben ploners and teal sometimes come there in flocks.

33. Mosquitoes abound to such an extent as to make sleep quite impossible to either Europeans or natives except under curtains or in a thorough draft and even then so immensely poisonous and pertinacious are they that nothing but the greatest cure can procure one any peace: the moment the sun is down they are out in such numbers that no sedentary occupation can be pursued unless every limb is covered with 2 or 3 folds of cloth or muslin. thick trowsers and socks are no defence, they are bred in the pits in which the husk of the cocoanut soaks for 6 months preparatory to being made into Coir -

34. Though no changes have been noticed in the depth of the lagoon very considerable ones have taken place and are still doing so on the west shore of the Island -

Annually

The storm which devastated the Laccadives (in 1847) destroyed the north point of this Island at a spot 80 yards from the end, where it is 31 ft. wide 12 ft. high: in a year or two the sea ceased to flow thro' and it has since thrown up a bank of stones: the same storm formed a small Islet near the entrance to the lagoon

35. Annually a portion of the shore near the north end and within the lagoon is washed away and deposited on the shore near the south end also within the lagoon: Nor 12 feet of ground in width and about 200 yards in length, with the cocoanut trees growing on it, is thus annually removed from the narrowest parts of the Island, and if this continues at the same rate for 10 years more, this part will probably have been wholly washed away and the Island will be of a far more round shape than at present -

36. At the south-east corner of the Island among heaps of Coral stones (which appear to have been but little broken up or disturbed since placed there by the sea centuries ago) and in the jungle where there are few cocoanut trees, there are some small

Chambers

chambers which have been constructed under
ground at an unknown period, most of
them are about 4 feet high 3 wide and 8
long; many are smaller, they are but
little removed from the surface. the walls
(like most others on the Island) are built
of loose flat stones laid one upon another
and at the top of the passage they are made
to approach each other and form a kind of
arch, over which are laid large flat stones
and near these 3 inches of loose stones: no bone
or other trace of man has been found in
them except a fibrous substance which crumbled
when touched (Seroles learn no particulars
of the nature of the sack) and the shells of
a kind of fish which has been eaten from
time immemorial by the people of the Island;
there are about 50 of these, and it may be sup-
posed that they were used as temporary &
places of concealment during incursions
of pirates &c: time has not in any way
cemented together the stones above and
around

around these passages or holes-

37

In Kurkadajom, Sangam
July August
Kanree the wind is from the west, rather
September
squally, with showers. In Cholum and Kushi-
October Novem.
jom it blows from all four quarters. In Pa-
ber
chanee and Magarom from east and north east
December January
with showers in some years. In Kumbak,
February
Menom and Meldom from north and north-
March April
east. In Idavom, Methoonom and Kurkada-
May June July
jom, monsoon and storms from west and
north west waterspouts frequently in
Idavom and Midoonom-

In Idavom, Methoonom and
Current 38
Kurkadajom goes south east passing south
of Ceylon and going to Pulo Penang and
beyond- Kanree, Cholum and Kushijom cur-
rent less violent, and direction uncertain; &
close to shore changes will be rapid several
within the day; but not so rapid at sea-

In coming from Maldives to
39.
Menakoy in Kanree steer four points west
September
of Menakoy to latitude-

The

Population

The inhabitants of Tekenakay

41. (about 250 in number) bear the different
denominations of Malikans, Malummy,
Yaekura, Kalo, Maylacherry - no great dis-
tinctions however attach to all these names.

41.— The real divisions are Malikans
Malummies, Slaves, and Maylacherries -

42. The Malikans (about 116 in
number) form the Aristocracy of the Island;
3 of them have considerable landed property
here, and own all the trading vessels which
go to Bengal &c. -

43. Though now consisting of several
families they are all connected, being sprung
from Kambakoth Konbaramy who lived 200
years ago -

44. They have by no means the
overweening influence exercised over their
country men by the Aristocracy of the Low
coral Islands; this is consequent on the
different relative position of the parties -

45 The Boobee of Lamanore has
endeavoured more or less to identify their in-
terests with her own by supporting their wishes
occasionally with reference to the conduct of
their sailors, and by usually employing one
of them as her agent or Konnakar on the Island -

46. This Konnakar collects all the
revenues of the Boobee, hears pleas for trespass,
keeps down in a measure theft &c. and super-
intends the Boobees traffic, so on the arrival
of her vessels from Cannanore he gives orders
necessary for their careful preservation and
arranges for the embarking of the Cargo Crews
&c. for the voyage to Bengal at the commence-
ment of the season -

47 Formerly they had the exclusive
privilege of wearing good clothes, Caps and shoes
and using umbrellas, but every one now wears
what Cap and clothes he likes and Malum-
mies use the umbrellas also; the shoes is
the only remaining exclusive privilege of
the Malikans -

48. They live with their families

in

in large low rambling houses within court
yards and possess English Quadrants, Compasses,
charts and Telescopes -

The Malummies are the pilots
49 and masters of the vessels: this is no hereditary
title but is conferred by their neighbours for
ability: any man in Menakoy may obtain
this rank and is not then excluded from
the society of the Malikans who will even
intermarry with them: they number about
180 -

The Klasies (1109 in number) form
50 the bulk of the population and though in
general poor are exceedingly independant
of the other classes: they possess no seagoing
boats or vessels of their own, nothing fit
to use far outside the lagoon: but they work
the larger vessels and the Masulboats of
the Malikans: as it is impossible for
the merchants without their aid to carry
on their trade and as the Klasies are not
taxed tenants at will as in the Laccadives,
but

but with very few exceptions, small land
proprietors themselves and only going to sea
for regular wages given for work done at
the time they enjoy a very comfortable inde-
pendant position and both on land and at
sea yield by no means implicit obedience
to either Beebee or Malikans -

51 Besides those who are employed
in the Beebees and Malikans vessels many
of them take service in English ships and
are absent for many years together. during
this period they get high wages but usually
spend it all before they return to Menakoy;
they were formerly more wealthy being
generally able to lay out a little capital
in trade on their own account every voyage,
but taking to imitate their superiors, and
living and dressing beyond their means they
have of late years become thriftless and
poor -

52 Though these sailors not a
little information has found its way into
Menakoy

Menakoy regarding Arabia, Africa, Bengal, Malacca, Australia &c.

53 Those who follow the occupation of Mayplockerries or Treechimbers are about 583 in number: they climb the trees of the Kyoke and the Berbee for hire and extract the juice from which sugar is made.

54 The whole population of the Island is congregated in one spot and live chiefly in detached enclosures forming long streets of cocoanut leaf hedges, and leaf thatched houses, the arrangement is to enable the Berbee to guard the latter against trespassing on her cocoanut plantations.

55. In the north and south portions of this village there are head men who have been elected by the people and another over these two is elected by themselves and approved by the Berbee of Lammanoo.

56 Whenever proclamations have to be made known to all the people, or they have

have to be assembled for any work these "Hop-pans" (head men) are always the persons through whom they are communicated with and as might be expected have considerable influence with them.

57. Occasionally there have been outbursts in which the usual tyranny of a Mob is shown: those who do not answer to the peculiar call which is used for assembling them are punished sometimes by having their Coast yards filled and houses heaped up with wild pine apple brought and flung there by all their neighbours and it is a labour of many days to them to rid themselves of the nuisance: on more serious occasions of public displeasure the house is looted and pulled down.

58 The people of Menakoy while at home are as a rule very idle: active sailors and traders they come home to take their ease and leaving the women to soak the Coir and pick up cocoanuts Cowries &c.

they

they only condescend to beche the themselves when there is a chance of catching Snapper fish. their fishery money is not at all that of the Malabar Moplahs or of the Laccadive Islanders. there appears to me something African in some of them; having never seen Maldive people I cannot say & whether they resemble them -

59. This worthy of note how large a number of the people the Beebee keeps in some measure dependant on her -

60. In her 3 Odies and 1 Bargue she employs probably about 100 men monthly: she pays (for collecting the fallen cocoanuts) about 400 women and for various odd work 50 youths thus about a quarter of the population receive more or less from her -

61. The following are the chief products:

Cocoanuts
Sugar
Coir

Islanders property
Bargue — 1.
Odies — 1.
Bandoolies — 2.
Snapboats — 8.
Boats — 31.

Beebee's property
Bargue — None.
Odies — 3.
Bandoolies — 2.
Snapboat — 1.
Boats — None.

Note. A bargue of about 400 tons 3 Odies under 200 tons: the smaller vessels Bandoolies are of about 50 tons burthen.

Courses
Snapper fish Shark Kotah
Turtle (large & Hawks)
Turtle
Bream Shakrai
Arreca nuts
Betel vine Shalam Ganja
Mango
Sugar cane Plantains
Edible root called "Kithala Kilangu"

Trade

62. The people of Kenakoy are great traders. At the time I visited the Island all their vessels but 2 were absent, and it was not very readily that they informed me how many they had. I believe however I shall not be far wrong in saying they have 6 or 7 vessels fit for the Bengal trade and 20 which go to the Coast and the Maldives -

63. The usual course of trade is as follows:

64. They go with money and sometimes (but rarely) with Snapper fish and Sugar to Goa for salt and to Mangalore for rice, returning with these to Kenakoy they usually

usually transfer the goods to a larger vessel and
start laden with cocoanut, Coir, Sugar, Rice &c
for Bengal: they usually touch at the Mal-
dives and Galle on their way: to the Maldives
they take Goa salt, Arenakoy sugar and of
any remain from last year, Bengal rice
and Coringa cloths, here they take in Rice for
the Galle and Calicut markets, Cocoanuts, Cowries
and Coir for Bengal, at Galle they take in more
cocoanuts and sail for Calcutta

65. On the returning voyage they
bring from Calcutta (for sale in the Maldives)
cloths silks &c and Sugar from Balasore, &
Domrah &c (for sale at Galle and in the Maldives)
rice from Coringa (for home consumption and
the Maldives) white cloths &c.

66. The Arenakoy trade and its
profits are both said to have greatly dimin-
ished of late years. Formerly they had 8 Bales
and a Ship: now they have 3 Bales and a
Smaller barque: they once traded to Mocha
Arabia, the Persian Gulf, Mauritius,

*burnt

and Singapore, they now seldom go any where
but to the western Coast, Maldives, Galle ports
on the Eastern Coast and Calcutta: the profit
of trade they say have fallen off, the Chittagong
traders now themselves bring rice to the Maldives
and some Parsees having during the last few
years set up a shop in those Islands the
Arenakoy people no longer have the almost
monopoly which they once enjoyed. Arenakoy
Coir also by no means maintains its character
in the Market, and the Chief cause the Mer-
chants say is that the women make it more
complexly than formerly, old husks are
mixed with young and they are not thoroughly
cleaned, they mean now to attempt a reso-
lution in this

67. Cowries (the Brokers' Monopoly
continually rise in price and Sugar maintains
its ground, Arenakoy cocoanuts are known
and sought after at Calcutta, Maldive and
Galle ones being immediately detected and
refused if an attempt has been made to mix

*It has fallen from Rs 10 per Maund to Rs 3 but is now at Rs 5 again

and

Trade.

and pass them all off as Menakoy: they are
sent for on land to Burdwan and elsewhere

68. Vessels should leave Menakoy
in Kardadoon visit Maldives, Galle, Bengal,
July
eastern coast and return via Galle or Maldives
to Menakoy on Virdom -
April
69. The season opens earlier at Mena-
koy than on the coast and one vessel can
not make the trips to Goa &c and Bengal
the same year -

70. The smaller vessels generally go
the Coast trip while the larger ones go to
Bengal &c -

71. The Menakoy merchants are
thoroughly alive to the great loss incurred by
them consequent on a rig which prevents
their employing less than 17 men in their
smallest vessels and 32 in the largest -

Island "Addu" -

72. All the "dhees" "baudoolies" "baps"
are
boats and smaller ones built in Menakoy
the smaller rigged and the largest nearly
partly

Trade -

partly of Cocoanut and partly of woods brought
from the main land -

73. Their craft sail equally
both before and against the wind but for the
larger vessels they complain that they have no
good models and know nothing that would
tend more to the prosperity of this community
of sailor traders, who already use English
instruments, charts and nautical tables than
by opening to them a way of owning better built,
better rigged vessels: they find it hard work
in their tubs of vessels with large crews to
hold their own on a trade where they now
find many competitors and are most anxious
to avail themselves of any means of placing
themselves more on a par with others: whether
this would best be done by giving them working
models or by presenting Rupan Malekan with
a small properly built vessel (cutter or schooner)
as a lasting and useful memorial of the
same entertained by Government of his loyalty or
in what other way it is unnecessary for
me

See remarks on him in the Report on the Magisterial enquiry -

Trade

Miscellaneous notes on Menakoy

Prices on the Island & Elsewhere

Pt. Sugar — 7 adubas = — Rs.
= 3/4 its bulk in Bengal rice
= 1/2 — at the Maldives
1 pothi of 1st superior = Rs. Rixdollars
inferior = 8 Do. } in Maldives (1)

Cair — 4 pothis = 1 Mayna of rice
= about 1 anna
1 Maund = Rs. 3
= Rs. 5 in Bengal (2) } in Menakoy.

Cowries = its bulk in rice.
= 2 — salt.
1 Maund = Rs. 22 last year at Bengal

Soap — 100 pieces (from 100 fish) = 3 or 10 Rs. — at Galle
Inseuskakrai = its bulk in Menakoy sugar
= 2 — Bengal rice } sold at the rate by the Maldivians

6 "chippies" (slop basins) of Inseuskakrai = Rs. 1/4 at Pulo Penang.

(1) A good market always to be found also at Galle & on Malabar but the latter too small.

(2) They formerly got Rs. 16 per Maund the price sunk to 3 Rs. for Rs. and is now rising again

Pt. Cocoanuts — purchased by the Merchants at the rate of 1 for 80
1 Mayna of rice = 6 Cocoanuts
1 Anna = — } In Menakoy
sold by the Merchants to the people @ the rate of 50 = 1 Rs.

Prices

Rice — 1 Candy = 7 Rs. at Balasore (with the husk)
1 Sodah (1/2 of 1 Candy) = 2 on the Coast (unhusked)
1 Mayna = 6 Cocoanuts = 1 Anna
= 1 Mayna of Cowries.
= 4 pothis of Cair.

A An ordinary boat 20 ft. by 4 may be built of Cocoanut wood
on a portnight for Rs. 50.
A Baggalat in 4 Months for Rs. 200.

Weights & Measures

A 1 "pothy" (of Cair) = 20 weight
60 pothis = 1 Tholam
2 Tholams = 1 Maund
3 1/2 Maunds = 1 Candy

12 Mayna = 1 Kotta
= 20 Rattls
1 = 1 Bengal Seer
= 2 Rattls
= 80 Rs. weight
30 = 1 Mangalore Measure
80 = 1 Shak
33 1/4 Shak = 1 Candy
300 Mayna = —
13 1/2 Shak = 1 Coss

92

Wages.

Sailors — When serving the Beche-
de-Daily rations of 1½ Maynas rice,
2 Cocoanuts &c. a present of ½ adulsa of Sugar & 2 Cnuts
1½ Maynas of rice an allotted space for such Mer-
-chandize as he likes to take each way-
He & his wife are exempted from poll tax-
if taken in the Beche-de-mer service they are detained
by stress of weather at Cannanore then they get
Rs 2 a Month Extra.

93

Wages.

Sailors — When serving private
parties each Sailor has Rs 8 p Monthly rations
& Shak of Space-

In Alley
Malikani
Barque-

Steersman Rupees 6 p

½ the Space in the Reped appropriated for the
use of the crew - each Sailor has rations & 1 Share
(which in practice usually amounts to 600 Cnuts)
Paling (or Master) 2 Candayl or Captain 1 & Candy
of rice on return - Paling 1 Shak for taking
Reped in & out of Lagoon - If the Sailor has

from 24 to 32 Men form a Crew -

no Capital to trade with, then the owner takes
his share of the Space for him & on reaching
Tenakay retaining ½ Maynas per Rs 8 of what-
ever sum it may have cost him or her to him
the remainder which is usually about ½ -
thirty the Sailor can easily bring home rice
for the year & some Rs besides -

The duties of the Crew are to sail
the Reped & on their return to haul it up,
dammer it - divest roped from materials
supplied by the owner & launch it again
at the season -

Carpenters - 86. A superior workman gets daily
a meal - 3 Cocoanuts, 2 Maynas ½ adulsa sugar -
An inferior do 2 Cnuts - 1 Mayna
½ adulsa sugar -
An Assistant who bores the holes
required in boat building gets ⅓ of the above -
The meal consists of ½ Mayna
rice 1 Cnut ½ adulsa sugar -

Blacksmiths 86. Are paid at the same rate -
By The way in which the produce

of nuts of the Beebees plantations is collected
is as follows-

88 Once a month the Beebees em-
ployers inform the women of the Island
before hand of the day which has been appoint-
ed for the picking up of the nuts, and on the
day a woman or more from every house
except those of the Malekans goes at sun
rise to a part of the Beebees plantation

89 The people are not admitted in-
to these at any other times but for these oc-
casions they are divided off into portions by
the paths which intersect them. in each
of these divisions is a pinde Storehouse -

90 The women usually return
every month to hunt for nuts in the same
division and thus at dawn each goes straight
to her usual division collects what nuts she
can find at the foot of the trees and taking
them to the Storehouse of that division re-
ceives 8 Cocoanuts for her days work and a
per centage of it, (nuts) for every Meke has
collected

collected: the nuts are counted at the Store house
by Beebees employees with temporary assistants
from among the Islanders (who also are paid
for their services in nuts) and the woman is
then allowed to return homewards with as
large a bundle of firewood as she likes to
collect and carry and a basket with her cocoa-
nuts in it and a shut of leaf saying how
many she had collected: near the place where
all the houses are the Beebees chief agent sits
and examines each of the baskets and shuts
as they pass to prevent robbery-

91 Of the 8 nuts given to the women
as early as have the shell broken to prevent
their coming into market in competition with
the Beebees nuts -

Map fishing

92 The profits of Map fishing are
very uncertain as they depend entirely on the
numbers in which the fish themselves arrive
in the neighbourhood and this is very variable:
the 1/5 of the daily catch which goes to the

owner

owner of the boats does not pay them if the num
bers caught are small but it does very handsomely
if they are large -

93. There are in Kenakey 10 Pras
boats they fish continuously for only 6 months in
the year the other months being too stormy
and about 5,000 fish is the average number
taken: 10,000 could only be taken in a very fine
season. about 2,000 are used in the Island and
the remainder are cut up, dried or made into
Meemshakrai, and exported: the fishes are each
cut into 4 pieces, and the bones and any scraps
are boiled into a rich soup with more solid
balls of the same substance in it. the dried
fish is sold in the Maldives Galle and Malabar
Coast at the rate of from 8s to 12s for 100 pieces
of 10 fishes: the soup called strangely "Meem-
shakrai" (fish sugar) is much used in Kenakey
and is also sold at Pulo Penang -

Diseases

94. The most common disease on
the Island is what they call "Vathami" (gout or
Rheumatism?) as many as 100 have died of this
in one year: those attacked by it usually die
within a Month of the time of the symptoms
becoming observable -

95. Cholera was not known here
(as in Malabar) more than 30 years ago there
were severe attacks of it 10 years ago and 5 years
ago on which last occasion 370 died of it at the
rate of 100 to 150 a day -

96. Small pox has never been very
virulent on the Island: the crews were attacked
one year in Bengal and 100 men carried off. The
Islanders provide themselves at their own
expense with vaccinators from the main land -

97. When small pox appears those
attacked by it are sent for 40 days to a small
islet at the south end of the lagoon which is
thus used as a quarantine station -

98. Leprosy is always in the Island
and those afflicted by it are restricted to a
part of the North portion of the Island where
they form a small community of their own:

they

they have a small boat and a few Cocoanut
trees and their relatives place food daily or
weekly within their reach till they die -

99. Anjan Mahtkan and Ally
Mahtkan the 2 Chief merchants of Menakoy
usually export 4000 Cocoanuts each Annually -

100. Ally Mahtkan's usual export of
Coir is above 500 Tholams annually -

101. The usual annual export by the whole of the Islanders } = 1500 Tholams of Coir -

102. This has been a yearly steady &
average for 30 years: last year 2000 Tholams were
exported because the previous year having been
thrown away in rebelling against Government,
and the Bengal trade for that reason lost,
the people were in great distress for food,
and the merchants only providing them with
rice in exchange for Coir, they had to make
more of it than usual

103. Export of Cocoanuts has decreased
because 20 years ago proper attention was not
paid to planting and also the Pt has not been
vigorously

vigorously checked -

104. There is no such thing in Menakoy
as entailed (or "Tavazi") property -

105. The Islanders state the freight
of 1 Candy of rice from Balasore to Menakoy
to be about Rupees 7 and that of 1 Maund of
Cowries from Menakoy to Bengal to be about
Rupees 5 -

Signed) C. G. Thomas
S. Asst. Collr.

Calicut
7th April 1858

(True Copy)

C. Williams
Spl. Collr.

[illegible]

Copy in a letter to C
dt 27th Jany 1860 No 3.

In a letter from the Acting
Collector of Malabar dated
3d June 1858.

No 84.

From
The Special Assistant
Collector of Malabar
To,
The Acting Collector
of Malabar.

R 1996/59.

In No 2652 of 1858.
Rev - 631 Jany 60 L 132

Report regarding the Sources
& Amount of the Revenues
of Cannanore's income from
the Island of Menakoy.

74

R 84
1858

Dated 16th Do.

From
W. Robinson Esquire,
Acting Collector of Malabar

To
G. L. Forbes Esquire,
Secretary to the Board
of Revenue
Fort St. George

Sir,

I have the honor to submit the accompanying able report on the Island of Menakay by Mr. Thomas, Special Assistant of this District. Mr. Thomas' enquiry has been so minute & searching, and it's result is so fully given, that little remains to be remarked.

2. His attention was particularly given to the discovery of the sources and the amount of the revenues derived from the Island by it's Zemindar - the Raiah of Cannanore. This has necessarily been difficult to ascertain, from the fact that her income from it in a great measure depends on the profit obtained in trading, in the produce derived from

the Berbers against contd manage. The produce of the Gardens will therefore be sold on the spot, where it will realize fair prices - the must forego profit in trade, and the Berbers of Cannanore has forfeited much consideration by general contumacy -

6. The only tax levied by the Berbers of Cannanore is a species of Poll-tax in Kind; Viz: in Cocoa & Jaggery - The proceeds are subsequently exported by the Berbers of Cannanore - A kind of duty is likewise levied of 5 Candies of Rice on each boat's voyage - This rice is retailed to the Islanders for Cowries There are besides some inconsiderable payments of Mass fish &c. on Mass-boats, Nets, &c., but the profit of these Sources cannot be great -

7. By far the greater part of the Cocoanut produce brings in the Berbers of Cannanore's hands in the first instance, that great Source of the income from the other islands, Viz: the Cow Monopoly, does not prevail in Minikoy - Cowries alone

alone are monopolized being paid for at a low rate - They are valuable in the Calcutta trade -

8. The irregular exactions called "Benevolences" by Mr Thomas are heavy; and are much complained of - These exactions will not be continued of Course during the sequestration -

9. This report has been delayed in hope that the Accounts will be submitted along with it, they will now be sent so soon as adjusted -

10. The nature of the orders issued has been entered as hand Notes in the Margins of Mr Thomas' report -

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your most ob.t Servant
W Warden
Asst Collector -

Encl 4

P.S. A Copy of Mr Thomas' Supplemental Statement of Miscellaneous Notes, to which reference is made in the Margin of his present report is herewith forwarded -

~~which was~~ in hand at the commencement of the Fasli, making a total of £ 19,213-3-1: of this 1600 Rs ~~of this~~ were credited to Government, the remainder being held in deposit to meet current expenditure. The effect has been that the Bibi's debt has been reduced by Rs. 6250"10"1, for while it ~~was~~ amounted at the commencement of the Fasli to Rs 32,444"11"4, it had decreased at the close to 26,194"1"3 made up of the following items.

Balance for 1267	1866-15-8
Receipts for 1268	5000-0-11
Cost of provisions supplied to the Islanders in 1857 ...	327-0-8
	26194"1"3

para 5

3. The Board shew that while there is no reason to suppose that the revenue from the staple product of the Islands has ~~been~~ diminished, a considerable decline in their value in the main has perceptibly ensued; the price of cowries has slightly risen; that of other articles obtained on account of Government, & the freight to Calicut has remained stationary.

Para 6.

4. The Honorable the Governor in Council af-

the management of the Islands has been conducted during the Fasli in question.

5. His Honor has read with much interest the report made by Mr Thomas on the Island of Amakoi; in accordance with the suggestion of the Board the Notes on the history &c. of the Island, (which accompanied the report) will be communicated to the Literary Society for publication in their Journal.

6. With reference to the orders requested on the subject matter of the 15th & 17th Paras of the Proceedings under consideration, and to the alterations in Establishment &c. proposed in the 18 and following Paras, the Government observe that they have already directed that the Islands at present under sequestration shall be made over to the Bibi on payment of all the arrears of peshcush due by her, and it will not be therefore necessary to make any other arrange-

* Order of Govt. 10 Dec. 1864. Dis. 1669.

ments than those now in
force.

11 Copies to the Board of Revenue

Cir. 27

Cyn. matters
27 Sept 1858 N-H

No 28 Rev 27-28 5/18-11-5-9
19-20/16-8-56
14-15-23-6-57
44-48-25-5-58
3-4-6-7-58
1-4-12-9-54

C.H. Surv. 1218