M.R.O. 14—10,000—21-4-22

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue **DEPARTMENT.**

G.O. No.	138	Press ~~Mis.~~
77-78		
Dated	27 — 1 —	1860.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

No. 77. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 10th December 1859, No. 5105.

Read letter from the Collector of Chengalpat, dated 19th September 1859, No. 347, suggesting improvements in the administration of the salt department of that district.

(In Con. 21st September 1859, No. 4715.)

Read letter from the same officer, dated 18th July 1859, No. 255, requesting that the special surveillance exercised in South Arcot over the traders in salt from Salem may be ordered to be discontinued.

(In Con. 25th July 1859, No. 3678.)

In Con. 8th July 1859, *No.* 3315. Ordered to be submitted to Government, with reference to their Proceedings, dated 7th July 1859, Revenue Department, No. 901.

2. The salt pans of the Chengalpat district are seven in number. Two lie to the north on the Pulicát lake, two are situated in the southern part of the district on the southern canal, and three are found in the centre. Attention is first drawn to the central pans.

3. These are situated at Kóvalang, Vadasamanjeri and Pyanur. Kóvalang occasionally exports salt to Calcutta, but in other respects the trade in salt at this place, as well as at the other two central pans, is much depressed, and the sales at the three places are apparently confined, for the most part, to home consumption. The inland trade ceased a few years ago on the opening of the stores at Madras to inland traders.

4. Mr. Shubrick suggests a return to the old state of things by stopping inland sales at Madras, and failing that, he reverts to the scheme of a depôt on the southern line of road near the Adaiyar, first agitated in 1849, but laid aside for reasons stated, and recommends the opening of a place of sale on the Adaiyar, in the grounds known as Homes' garden, which is now the property of Government. The former proposition, as already pointed out by the Board, is inadmissible, as interfering with the natural course of trade, and shutting out the inland consumers of salt from the advantages which improved communications place within their reach. Viewed in this light, the manufacturers of salt in Chengalpat, so far from possessing rights superior to all other considerations, as Mr. Shubrick supposes, must yield, like others, to those changes which must occur from time to time. But apart from this view, the Board pointed out in their Proceedings, mentioned in the margin above, that the opening of the Madras stores to inland traders, so far from being new, was simply the revival of a former practice.

Board's Proceedings, 13th August 1849, *No.* 363, *paragraph* 3.

5. The formation of a depôt, or place of store and sale at some suitable spot on the Adaiyar, is deserving of further consideration at the present time, not with the view primarily of giving to the salt manufacturers of Chingleput an equivalent for what they have lost, but in order to provide facilities of supply to the trade itself. Return carts on the southern lines of road, find it more convenient to take salt at the Madras stores than to resort to the distant central pans of Chengalpat, but this convenience, the Board believe, will be further promoted, accompaneid probably by an extension of trade, if a place of sale is opened at the Adaiyar as proposed.

6. The southern traffic is very considerable By an enumeration made for the purpose, it was ascertained that in one month June 1852, 5,103 carts passed into Madras over Marmalong bridge, and that 283 return carts were laden with salt for the interior. The traffic has no doubt increased since that account was taken, and the Board understand that, in consequence of the whole trade at Madras being confined to one place of sale, the deliveries of salt cannot proceed with sufficient rapidity to prevent delay, and that owners of bandies find it difficult to obtain halting room.

From Collector, 3rd in Con., 19th August 1852, *No.* 1858.

7. The Board, therefore, beg to recommend the proposal for forming a place of store and sale on the Adaiyar. When this scheme was discussed on the former occasion, the want of water transit from the pans to the Adaiyar was an obstacle, but this has been removed by the excavation of the southern canal. On the junction of the northern with the southern canal, Mr. Shubrick, seems to think that the Adaiyar depôt may be given up, as the Chengalpat salt may then be taken to the platforms at Madras. The Board do not concur in this opinion. The convenience of the southern trade, which is the chief ground for establishing the proposed depôt, will always

require its maintenance, and this depôt will probably be found still more necessary hereafter as a relief to the Madras depôt where the sales will soon increase greatly. Such increase indeed has already commenced, and it is not possible now to form even a probable estimate of the extent to which the demand for salt will grow on the opening of the Madras Railway into Salem with its extension to the western coast. The important branch to Kadapa will also add very largely to that demand. Thus, in addition to present convenience to trade, the Madras depôt will require the relief of a separate one at the Adaiyar and a portion of the additional salt, which it will itself require, can be obtained with advantage from Kóvalang so soon as the junction of the Kú vam with the Adaiyar shall be effected. This view renders it desirable that the junction should be proceeded with at an early date. The completion of this work will give to the manufacturers of Kóvalang, who produce a superior article, and outlet for their salt, which is an additional argument in favor of the junction of the two canals, although the manufacturers' claims to consideration, as a matter of right, have, as already stated, been viewed by the Board as inadmissible when weighed against the convenience of the general community.

8. The produce of the central pans in fasli 1262, an average year, was nearly four lacs of maunds.

9. The cost of bringing the salt from the pans to the proposed store at the Adaiyar will be about the same as that of bringing the salt from Ennore, &c., to the store at Madras. The aggregate changes for the establishment will remain as they are, as shown in enclosure 3, of Mr. Shubrick's letter. The establishment at Kóvalang will be reduced from Rupees 128 to Rupees 89 per mensem, while those at Vadasamanjeri and Pyanur will be removed to the new depôt, those places being managed as out-lying pans.

Board's Proceeding's, 13th August 1849, *paragraph* 4.

Dated 19th in Con. 21st September 1859, *No* 4715.

10. Should Government be pleased to concur in the foregoing proposal, early measures will be necessary for the formation of a platform at Homes' garden, or other suitable place in that locality on the same side of the river, and for a few branch channels to connect the more distant pans with the main canal, as explained in paragraph 7 of Mr Shubrick's letter.

Dated 19th in Con. 21st Sept. 1859, *No.* 4715.

11. The northern pans are at Sunappa gunta and Púngalam. The trade at those places is apparently limited, the quantity of salt manufactured at them in fasli 1262 having been about 55,000 Indian maunds only. The Board gather from Mr. Shubrick's letter that the trade is susceptible of improvement chiefly by attention to the approaches to the pans. Púngalam was formerly included in North Arcot, and as both sets of pans chiefly affect the interests of that district, they resolve to forward copy of paragraph 8 of Mr. Shubrick's letter, with copy of these proceedings, for the consideration and report of the Collector of North Arcot.

Dated 19th in Con. 21st Sept. 1859, *No.* 4715.

12. The two southern pans, Chonambut and Cheyur, occupy an important place in the trade. The former is in close contiguity to Marakanum, a salt store in South Arcot and its sales of salt have fallen from 1,34,683 Indian maunds in 1857-58, to 26,248 Indian maunds in the following year. This fall is stated by Mr. Shubrick to be owing to certain Police arrangements in South Arcot, the effect of which has been to bring traders to the stores at Marakanum-where the sales have increased from 1,33,421 Indian maunds in 1857-58, to 2,95,123 in 1858-59. In the one case the decrease has been 18½ per cent. and the increase in the other has been upwards of 121 per cent. The Board learn that the Police arrangements in question were introduced in 1858, under the sanction of Government, and have probably worked well, though some of the subsidiary rules, such as those of which Mr. Shubrick complains, may be of doubtful expediency. They were intended as a check on the thieving habits of the Corawar and other tribes who trade in salt, but the effects, the Board apprehend, have been to divert trade from its natural course. These traders, it appears, are made over by the Salem Police, on their quitting, the limits of that district, to that of South Arcot, whose duty it is to furnish an escort to remain with them till they again quit the district. The Collector of Chengalpat acquiesced at first in these arrangements on public grounds, though doubtful of their expediency. In the second of the letters recorded above, he describes their working and results, and requests that they may be ordered to be discontinued.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department, for the month of January 1860.

13. The subject was mooted in the Board's Proceedings, dated 16th September last, No. 3675, copy of which was laid before Government, but in the Proceedings of Government, dated, 1st October last, No. 1337, Revenue Department, doubts were expressed as to whether the arrangements in question had tended to reduce sales in Chengalpat and a 10 years' statement of sales was adduced as showing that in that district this branch of revenue had not declined. It may yet, however, be true that sales have declined at one set of pans from this cause, and that the general revenue from salt in Chengalpat would but for it have increased in a larger ratio. The Board cannot but think that, however desirable the system may be on Police considerations, it must place some restrictions on trade. It may, however, be that this latter disadvantage is more than balanced by the former's benefit. Copy of the letter from South Arcot, dated 20th October 1859, will be communicated to Mr. Shubrick.

In Con. 3rd October 1859, *No.* 4927.

In Con. 22nd October 1859, *No.* 5246.

14. The approaches to Chonambut and Cheyur are stated to be indifferent, and the Collector seems to think that inland depôts, as outlets for the salt of these pans, may be established with advantage. On both points Mr. Shubrick's remarks are only general.

15. Where the existence of a Railway or a navigable river or canal affords unusual facilities of which Government alone can give to the people the full extent of advantage possible to be derived from them, as already explained fully in the papers noted in the margin, the Board are in favor of inland Government depôts. But when the ordinary carriage of the country has to be used, the Board would not attempt inland depôts, but leave the conveyance of salt into the interior to private interprise.

Letter to Government, 1st February 1856.
Board's Proceedings, 21st May 1856, *No.* 1545, *para.* 10, *&c.*

16. Facilitating the access to the pans by bridges, and good roads seems the only aid which Government can advantageously give in these latter cases, and on these points the Board will be glad to receive distinct suggestions from Mr. Shubrick as regards the southern pans.

(A true Extract.)

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

P. S.—After forwarding the draft of the foregoing Proceedings to the Printer, the Board received a letter from the Collector of Chengalpat dated 5th instant, in continuation of his letter, dated 19th September 1859. In this communication Mr. Shubrick reiterates his recommendation for the establishment of a depôt at Homes' garden as of primary importance, and adds that if the pans at the several places of manufacture are connected with the trunk roads in their vicinity by means of made roads, the sales of salt are likely to increase considerably. The probable increase, on what data estimated is not stated, is put down at Rupees 1,44,000, the present average sales being Rupees 1,96,560. The roads, it appears, may be constructed at a comparative small expense. The benefit to the State as well as to the community is likely to be great if these improvements are made, and the Board resolve to submit Mr. Shubrick's letter for the consideration and orders of Government.

In Con. 8th December 1859, *No.* 6118.

In Con. 21st September 1859, *No.* 4715.

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

No. 78. ORDER THEREON, 27th January 1860, No. 138.

1. It appears from paragraph 2 of these Proceedings that in Chengalpat district there are seven salt pans. Two lie to the north on the Pulicát lake, two are situated in the southern part of the district on the southern canal, and three are found in the centre.

2. Towards these last three, in connection with the formation of a depôt at Homes' garden on the Adaiyar, the Board's remarks are principally directed. Mr. Shubrick proposes and the Board recommend that by reducing the establishment at Kóvalang from 128 Rupees to Rupees 89 per mensem, and removing those of Vadasamanjeri and Pyanur to the new depôt, increased facility should be afforded to traders to take return loads of salt, whilst the only expense to

Government would be in the first outlay for a new platform and its subsidiary works. The Board do not base this recommendation on any consideration of the losses to which, it is alleged, the salt manufacturers in Chengalpat have been subjected, by certain changes in the mode of sale at the Madras depôt, but simply to provide facilities of supply to the trade itself. "The "Board understand that in consequence of the whole trade at Madras being confined to one place "of sale, the deliveries of salt cannot proceed with sufficient rapidity to prevent delay, and that "owners of bandies find it difficult to obtain halting room" and they therefore recommend this proposal for forming a place of store and sale on the Adaiyar. They would not, as Mr. Shubrick proposes, consider such a depôt as a mere temporary expedient, to be given up as soon as a junction is formed between the northern and southern canals, but they believe that the convenience of the southern trade will always require the maintenance of such depôt whether the Chengalpat salt can be taken direct to the platforms at Madras, or not. They refer to the opening of the Madras railway into Salem and Kadapa as being likely to enhance greatly the demand for Madras salt.

3. The Government are disposed to approve generally of this proposal. Though there are obvious advantages in having only one store for Madras, especially in the more economical superintendence, they are of opinion, that the argument which has reference to increased demand consequent on the completion of the railway into the interior, is so strong, that even the junction between the Kúvam and Adaiyar rivers will not render the projected platform by any means without use. The Board will therefore be good enough to obtain as early as practicable from Mr. Shubrick, a detailed account of the arrangements he would propose, stating the precise spot at which he would establish a depôt; the nature and extent of the platform or storing place; what amount of salt should be kept there; and any other particulars, in order that Government may be at once enabled to pass final orders on the subject.

4. As regards paragraphs 12 and 13 of the Board's Proceedings under consideration and the Police arrangements complained of by Mr. Shubrick, the Government observe that these latter are open to some obvious objections, and are not such as they consider ought to be permanent. They seem nevertheless to have been effective for their immediate purpose. The new Police however has been introduced into South Arcot, and the arrangement complained of will therefore he discontinued.

5. Mr. Shubrick declines (paragraph 8) to recommend any expense in improving the approaches to the Sunappa gunta and Púngalam salt stores; but as the country to the west of them is almost wholly in the North Arcot district, the Board have called for the opinion of the Collector of that district on the subject.

6. The Government concur in the remark of the Board (paragraph 15) on the subject of nland depôts, for the sale of salt.

7. The Government cannot understand there being "no remedy" as stated by Mr. Shubrick* for the bad quality of the salt at all the pans in his district.

* *Letter September 19th paragraph* 12.

It is certain that the quality of the salt made at any place depends greatly on the care exercised by the Superintendents. The makers receive the same price for their salt whether good or bad, and it is their interest therefore to deliver inferior salt. But it is the duty of the Superintendent of the pans to refuse such salt, and rigidly to cause all below a certain standard to be thrown back again into the water. Where this duty is performed the quality of the salt soon improves; and the Government must therefore ascribe the uniformly bad quality of the Chengalpat salt to neglect on the part of the salt department servants. Mr. Shubrick's careful attention should be directed to this subject.

8. The rough sketch maps promised by Mr. Shubrick in the last paragraph of his letter do not appear to have been submitted to Government.

9. The attention of the Collector of Madras should be drawn to the concluding part of paragraph 6 of the Board's Proceedings under consideration. Probably attention and care on the part of the Superintendent will diminish the inconveniences complained of: should additional measurers be required the Government will be prepared to attend to an application to that effect.

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

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ess of Inám proposed to be confirmed to the bers of the family as personal grant according to their respective shares.					
of field Descrip- of Land.	Extent.	Assess- ment.	Jodi to be charged thereon inclu- sive of that already paid.	Remarks of the Deputy Collector.	Decision of the Commis sioner.
16	17	18	19	20	21

Government would be in the first outlay for a new platform and its subsidiary works. The Board do not base this recommendation on any consideration of the losses to which, it is alleged, the salt manufacturers in Chengalpat have been subjected, by certain changes in the mode of sale at the Madras depôt, but simply to provide facilities of supply to the trade itself. "The "Board understand that in consequence of the whole trade at Madras being confined to one place "of sale, the deliveries of salt cannot proceed with sufficient rapidity to prevent delay, and that "owners of bandies find it difficult to obtain halting room" and they therefore recommend this proposal for forming a place of store and sale on the Adaiyar. They would not, as Mr. Shubrick proposes, consider such a depôt as a mere temporary expedient, to be given up as soon as a junction is formed between the northern and southern canals, but they believe that the convenience of the southern trade will always require the maintenance of such depôt whether the Chengalpat salt can be taken direct to the platforms at Madras, or not. They refer to the opening of the Madras railway into Salem and Kadapa as being likely to enhance greatly the demand for Madras salt.

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REGISTER OF VILLAGE SERVICE INÁMS IN THE VILLAGE TÁLUQ OF

Present Emoluments.						Name and particulars of the persons or families at present enjoying the Emoluments; distinguishing the holders of the office from others, and the shares of Ináms and other emoluments enjoyed by each.	Proposed Emoluments.	
Ináms.			When granted, and by what proof supported; and if subject to Jodi the amount thereof.	Grain fees and Ready money Emoluments.	Total income deducting Jodi.		No. of incumbents proposed for the office.	Amount of Emoluments.
No. of fields and Description of Land.	Extent.	Assessment.						
2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11

DISTRICT OF

Particulars of the Inám proposed to be assigned to the Office in addition to the Ready-money and grain fee emoluments which are entirely available to it.				Excess of Inám proposed to be confirmed to the Members of the family as personal grant according to their respective shares.			Remarks of the Deputy Collector.	Dec
No. of field and Description of Land.	Extent.	Assessment.	Jodi.	No. of field and Description of Land.	Extent.	Assessment.	Jodi to be charged thereon inclusive of that already paid.	
12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	

good or bad, and [illegible] Superintendent of the pans to refuse [illegible] and rigidly to cause all below a certain standard to be thrown back again into the water. Where this duty is performed the quality of the salt soon improves; and the Government must therefore ascribe the uniformly bad quality of the Chengalpat salt to neglect on the part of the salt department servants. Mr. Shubrick's careful attention should be directed to this subject.

8. The rough sketch maps promised by Mr. Shubrick in the last paragraph of his letter do not appear to have been submitted to Government.

9. The attention of the Collector of Madras should be drawn to the concluding part of paragraph 6 of the Board's Proceedings under consideration. Probably attention and care on the part of the Superintendent will diminish the inconveniences complained of: should additional measurers be required the Government will be prepared to attend to an application to that effect.

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

IN CON. 21ST SEPTEMBER 1859, No. 4715.

From C. J. SHUBRICK, Esq., Collector of CHINGLEPUT,
dated Sydapet, 19th September 1859, No. 347.

I have the honor to furnish the information called for in the Board's Circular of the 11th July last, No. 2698, regarding the best methods of introducing a more effective administration into the department of salt in this district.

2. There are at present seven pans in this district, as noted in the margin, of which the two northern and three centre pans, are situated on the Pulicat lake and southern coast canal respectively, while the two southern pans will lie on the banks of the canal, as soon as it extends as far south as the pans. On the score of water communication therefore, as affording facilities for the conveyance of salt, no improvement need be looked for; the chief and only cause which renders this water communication useless, is the existence of the Madras pans in the heart of the district, and the supply which they afford to all the wants of the Madras trade, whether for export, inland or Home consumption. On the banks of the canal and lake, there are no towns or villages requiring salt to be brought to them, except for ordinary retail consumption; whence the trade in this article is that of the retail, and not of the wholesale dealer along the canal and lake borders. The two northern and two southern pans are too far to be injured by the inland sales at Madras; but many bandies travelling south or south-west would be inclined to load with salt at the centre pans, if these sales were put a stop to. The Board [illegible]ware, that they are only of a few years' standing, and that they have seriously interfered with the Chingleput salt revenue.

Soonapagoontah... Poongolum.....	North.
Covelong..... Vadasamunjary..... Pyanoor.....	Centre.
Cheyoor..... Choonambut.....	South.

3. Considering that the owners of the different pans may be said to hold vested rights in them, of which they have been virtually deprived, by a mere order of Government extending the sales at Madras to inland consumption, it appears but a simple act of justice, that restitution should now be done them, by reverting to the order of things prevailing at Madras before the inland sales were allowed, or substituting some other nearly approximating to it in its beneficial results.

4. The plea that it is a matter of indifference to Government when their salt is sold, and which has been advanced as an explanation of their proceedings, along with another, which assigns the falling off in Chingleput to a change in the current of traffic, but which change has been caused by their proceedings, appears to me only to hold good, when viewed on the side of Government and as a mere matter of money alone, taking into account only the mode in which it can be easiest got, but must be set aside when considered with reference to the manufacturer's means of subsistence. To deprive the manufacturer of his trade, and then to tell him it has changed its current, is in reality viewing only one side of the question, and making him pay, with his loss of goods, for the supposed convenience of the Government, and the enrichment of other manufacturers more fortunately situated.

5. If the wants of Madras, caused by the Railway and extended inland trade, and the wants of the trading community are so great as to require the continuance of the inland sales of salt at Madras, and which I am not prepared to disallow, I see no reason why the benefit accruing from this improved state of things, should be divided among the Madras pans alone, as is now the case; and why the three centre pans of this district, which formerly provided the salt for inland consumption to the south and west, now provided by the Madras pans, should not be allowed to participate in it.

6. The manufacture at these three centre pans, but particularly at Covelong, might be increased to almost any extent that was wished. With the exception of Covelong which, owing to the difficulties made by the boatmen at Madras, has been exporting salt to Calcutta for the last twelve months, the two other pans of Vadasamunjary and Pyanoor, have a Home trade only, and sell nothing for inland consumption. To improve them and make their salt available for general consumption, beyond the limits of this district, the establishment of a depôt will be necessary on the banks of the Adyar. This can easily be accomplished, by appropriating the low land of Home's garden, now the property of Government, for the purpose, where any amount of salt can be brought by the canal at an average rate of Rs. 2-10 per garce, and stored for sale. Afterwards when the canal has been extended to Black Town, the depôt can be abolished and the salt taken to the Madras stores direct. At present, the land carriage would render it too expensive to Government to convey the salt by bandies from the Adyar to Black Town.

7. If this depôt is permitted, the establishments at Vadasamunjary and Pyanoor might be reduced or rather transferred to the depôt, sufficient only being kept at those pans, to superintend the manufacture with the aid of additional temporary hands whenever necessary. The

only additional convenience these pans would require beyond what they already possess, would be a few small branch canals to bring their out-lying parts into connection with the main canal. Beyond this single depôt, no others would be necessary in the district.

8. The two northern pans are situated about five miles from the northern trunk road, and are not approached by any made roads whatever. The northern trunk road does not faciliate their sales, as no one would purchase at them for either northern or southern traffic. They can, therefore, only look to sell in their own neighbourhood and for the interior. The roads into the interior are the common roads or tracks of the country, good enough in dry weather, but scarcely passable in wet. I cannot recommend any expense being incurred on them, on account of the salt trade. If other causes lead to their improvement, the salt trade will be benefitted by them at the same time. The establishment of a depôt at some convenient spot in the interior, would doubtless conduce to the benefit of the pans; but as it would have to be fixed in North Arcot, the Collector of that district, is perhaps the fittest person to say where it should be.

9. Having advocated the use of the canal for the improvement of the three centre pans, I have nothing to urge for them in the shape of roads, though much may be done for the two southern pans in this respect. Choonambut is only three miles from Mercanum in South Arcot and, with Cheyoor eight miles further, would largely partake of the Salem trade, but for the proceedings of the Collector of South Arcot, as reported in my letter, No. 255 of the 18th July last, now awaiting the Board's orders. The communication between Cheyoor and Choonambut, which it is desirable to keep up, is now in very bad order; but I requested the District Engineer to see to it some months ago. At present, with the exception of a distance of two or three miles between Choonambut and Manapaukum, for which Government allow a yearly outlay of Rupees 50, neither of these pans have any roads, facilitating their connection with the southern trunk road or with the interior, beyond the ordinary village tracks, which, as already stated regarding the northern pans, are good enough in dry, but bad in wet weather. Inland depôts supplied from these pans, could be formed if permitted, in consultation with the Collector of North Arcot. A reduction of establishment at the pans would help towards their maintenance.

	Garces.
Choonambut.....	733
Cheyoor.....	2,596
Pyanoor.....	786
Covelong.....	1,626
Vadasamunjary.....	681
Soonapagountah.....	153
Poongolum.....	308
	6,883

10. The produce of the pans, in Fusly 1262 an average year, is given in the margin; but the produce has always been limited by order, so as to allow of a two years' consumption only being on hand. It would be very unfair to consider this produce as the average produce the pans are capable of yielding.

11. The present establishments are shown in the accompanying Statement A. They would not have to be varied in the totals, by the establishment of depôts only to be modified as shewn in the statement. The appointment of a Deputy Collector would not affect them, as he could take one of the hoozoor goomastahs to keep his accounts. The proposed depôt at the Adyar, would be the fittest place for his head quarters.

12. The quality of the salt is undesirable and not to be improved. Whenever it looks or is bad, it may be attributed to the weather having been rainy and unfavorable, and to the brine having got mixed with mud. There is no remedy for this.

13. The rate of remuneration not only varies at the different pans, but in different parts of the same pan, as will be seen in the accompanying Statement B. The manufacturers are contented with their rates of remuneration, having never made any complaint about them whatever; their only complaint being the small amount of their sales, and as the rates of remuneration could not well be changed, except at the cost of Government by raising the smaller rates to the level of the highest, the change does not seem to be in any way called for.

14. The rough sketch maps which have been called for from the District Engineer, will be furnished as soon as received.

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Enc. 1.—A.

Abstract.—Statement showing the establishment employed in the salt divisions in the district of Chingleput.

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Enc. 2.—B.

Abstract.—Statement showing the dates of codevarum paid to salt manufacturers in the district of Chingleput.

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Enc. 3.

Abstract.—Statement showing the present establishment at Covelong, Vadasamunjary and Pyanoor, and its proposed distribution consequent on the formation of a depôt at Home's garden at Sydapet.

Exd. J. Tulloch.

In Con. 25th July 1859, No. 3678.

From C. J. SHUBRICK, Esq., Collector of CHINGLEPUT,

dated Sydapet, 18th July 1859, No. 255.

I have the honor to bring to the notice of the Board that, with the alleged object of preserving the peace and security of his district, the late Acting Collector of South Arcot, Mr. Taylor, organized a system of patrols for escorting Corawar and Lumbady and other wandering traders in salt from the frontiers of Salem to the depôt of Mercanum. Under this system, which was introduced in communication with the Collector of Salem, the traders were put under escort and handed over from one Collector to the other, both in going to and returning from the depôt. The traders were formed into gangs either at the depôt or on the Salem frontier, near the Chengawah pass, and started to their destinations twice a week by regular stages, from which they were in no wise permitted to deviate. A nominal list of the traders and their families composing each gang was prepared and a roll-call was called three times a day by the Police Naick in charge of the gang. This practice was established in May 1858, with the somewhat qualified permission of Government, who thought that increased vigilance on the part of the Police in the country, traversed by the wandering traders, would have been the more legitimate course to pursue. I have not the Government orders on the subject by me, as Mr. Taylor, who sent them to me for perusal, requested that they might be returned to him. The above is, however, the purport of the order as far as I can recollect, and Government desired that a report on the system should be submitted by Mr. Taylor after a year's trial.

2. It was not Mr. Taylor's wish to injure the salt revenue of Chingleput, or to put his hands in the pockets of the salt manufacturers of this district, or rather of Choonambut, the adjoining depôt in this district to Mercanum in South Arcot, and only three miles distant from it. His professed, and I believe his only, object was to endeavour to diminish the number of gang and highway robberies in his district, and which he thought were, in a great measure, perpetrated by parties of the wandering tribes, and ostensible traders and carriers of salt. It was his opinion that to give the system a fair trial, it should be co-operated in from this district, and at his request I consented to instruct the Peishcar at Choonambut to keep him informed of his sales of salt to Corawars intending to convey it through South Arcot, adding that after they entered his district they would of course be amenable to his arrangements. I also pointed out that I thought the system would divert the trade from our pans to others, where more liberty was allowed, and I have no doubt that this would have been the case if the Collector of Salem had not leagued with Mr. Taylor in receiving and delivering the gangs on his frontier, as if not collected, organized and handed over by the Collector of Salem, the traders would in all probability, it left to themselves, have sought other depôts and routes where they would have been free from surveillance, roll-calls or inspection.

3. Mr. Taylor's system is continued in tact to the present hour, the gangs start to and from Mercanum for the Chengawah pass in Salem twice a week, and have a roll-call three times a day throughout the journey. The result is that as the patrol Naick is obliged to deliver over the gang at Mercanum of the same strength as he received it at the pass, the trade is confined to that depôt—no portion of it reaching Choonambut.

4. A correspondence on the subject has been carried on between me and Messrs. Ratliff and McDonell, the successors to Mr. Taylor, since February last, which it is not needful for the Board to wade through, unless they wish it. The preceding is the state of things as it is and as it has been for more than a year, the Collectors of South Arcot insisting that the trade is free and no one prevented from going to Choonambut, while on the other hand I insist that it cannot be free so long as the gangs march under patrol and roll-call, and are obliged to be handed over as they have been received. The result has been apparent in an enormous increase in the sales of salt at Mercanum, and an equally enormous decrease at Choonambut as shewn in the enclosed statement, where the sales of Choonambut will be seen to have fallen off from Rupees 1,34,683 between July 1857 and May 1858, to Rupees 26,248 between July 1858 and May 1859, or 80 per cent. in 11 months, and have increased at Mercanum from Rupees 1,33,121 to Rupees 2,95,123, or 121 per cent. during the same period.

5. Though it may be a matter of indifference to Government whether they gain their salt revenue from Mercanum or from Choonambut, since the loss at one depôt is made up at the other, the reason does not hold good as regards the manufacturer whose means of living cease with his loss of trade I have, therefore, the honor to request the intervention of the Board in putting a stop to the patrol and roll-call system complained of between Mercanum and the Chengawah pass in Salem, and restoring the trade in salt to the free and liberal footing it enjoyed, before the people of Choonambut were made to suffer for the alleged protection of the people of South Arcot.

ENC. 1.

COMPARATIVE Statement of sales of Salt in the Choonambut pans of this district and Mercanum South Arcot during the undermentioned Fuslies.

	Chingleput District.		South Arcot District.	
	Choonambut.		Mercanum.	
	Salt sold in Fusly 1267, or year 1857-58.	Salt sold in Fusly 1268, or year 1858-59.	Salt sold in Fusly 1267.	Salt sold in Fusly 1268.
1	2	3	4	5
July 1858.	11 4 0	1,027 8 0	23,880 0 0	37,593 12 0
August	17,261 4 0	1,342 8 0	10,957 8 0	29,090 10 0
September	18,615 0 0	1,696 14 0	8,321 4 0	28,243 2 0
October	5,696 4 0	2,073 12 0	9,298 2 0	17,188 2 0
November	3,787 8 0	750 0 0	13,245 0 0	8,741 4 0
December...	12,795 0 0	2,583 12 0	23,508 12 0	47,141 4 0
January 1859	11,812 8 0	1,543 2 0	13,515 0 0	40,434 6 0
February	8,347 8 0	1,185 0 0	9,795 0 0	28,100 10 0
March	20,686 14 0	3,028 2 0	7,331 4 0	17,973 12 0
April...	24,225 0 0	8,103 12 0	7,147 8 0	16,801 14 0
May...	11,445 0 0	2,913 12 0	6,421 14 0	23,814 6 0
Total.....	1,34,683 2 0	26,248 2 0	1,33,421 4 0	2,95,123 2 0
	Decrease...	1,08,435 0 0	Increase.....	1,61,701 14 0
	Per centage	80 8 0	Per centage...	121 3 0

SYDAPET,
18th July 1859.

(Sgined) C. J. SHUBRICK,
Collector.

R. 4th October/59 Nos 106-107
—8th July—59

Copy in a Letter to Engt
D/15th June 1860 No 64

No 77

Copy to the Inspector
Genl of Police with
Letter from Colr Whitehill
D/18th July/59 R: 255
& 27th Jany/60
C 3d Jany/60 R 7 " C 18 " 23

Revenue 1859 Depart.
Proc: of Govt 31st January/60.
No 2356

Proceedings of the
Board of Revenue

Dated 10th
Despd 15th } December 1859
Recd 16th

C. S. at 3-4 & 5 of letters.
No 5105.
12 Encls
to do Returned
No 138. 27th January

Submitting with the
Board's observations and
recommendations, correspond-
ence from the Collector of
Chinglepute suggesting cer-
tain improvements in the
Administration of the Salt
Department of his District.

Copy to Mr R-12

1859 Depart.

Enclosure to their Proceedings
of the Board of Revenue
to the Secretary to Government
Revenue Department dated
10th December 1859 No 5105.

R 2356/59

Letter from the Collector
of Chinglepute to the Board
of Revenue dated 12th July
1859 No 255. regarding the
Special Surveillance exercised
in South Arcot.

Copy to the Inspector
Genl of Police
27 Jany 60
R. 138.

R 27th January/60
O No 30
D 77

Proceedings of the Madras Government
Under date the 29th Jany. 1806

Read Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, forwarding correspondence with the Collector of Chingleput, with reference to certain suggested improvements in the administration of the salt department in that District.

Chingalpat

Here enter Nos 5705 dated 10 Dec. 1805.
No 5705

It appears from para 2 of these Proceedings that in Chingleput District there are seven salt farms. Two lie to the north on the Pulicat Lake, two are situated in the southern part of the District on the Southern Canal, & three are found in the Centre.

Towards these last three in connection with the formation of a depôt at Arnee Garden on the Adyar, the Board's remarks are principally directed. Mr Shubrick proposes and the Board recommend that by reducing the establishments at Covelong from 128 Rs to Rs

I am thoroughly in favor of the Proposal to establish a salt depot at Arnee Garden Adyar

Covalong

89 per annum, and re-
moving those of Vadasa-manjery Jari and Pyanur to the
new depôt, increased fa-
cility should be afforded
to traders to take return
loads of salt, whilst
the only expense to Gov-
ernment w^d be in the
first outlay for a new
Platform and its subsi-
diary works. The Board
do not base this recom-
mendation on any con-
sideration of the losses
to which, it is alleged, the
salt manufacturers in
Chingleput have been
subjected by certain changes
in the mode of sale at
the Madras Depôt, but
simply to provide faci-
lities of supply to the
trade itself. "The Board
"understand that in con-
"sequence of the whole trade
"at Madras being confined
"to one place of sale, the
"deliveries of salt cannot
"proceed with sufficient
"rapidity to prevent
"delay, and that owners
"of bandies find it diffi-
"cult to obtain halting

It would afford great
facilities for an increased
sale of salt-
The junction of the Cooum
& Adyar [illegible] as
shown by Mr [illegible]
alters the necessity for
establishing a 2nd Depot
in the ~~[illegible]~~ vicinity of
Madras for the storing
of salt-
The inconvenience that must
be created at the
Madras store in
supply by the [illegible]
of the rail, requires that
aid should be
afforded to the [illegible]
[illegible] remaining
salt into the dis
trict of Chingleput
[illegible] - If this facility
be afforded [illegible]
[illegible] that

a considerable
increase in the
consumption of
salt would be
the result-

[illegible]

See para 3 on lower
page

fore recommend this
proposal for forming
a place of store and sale
on the Adyar- They
would not, as Mr Elmhirst
proposes, consider such a
depôt as a mere tempo-
rary expedient, to be
given up as soon as a
junction is formed between
the northern & Southern
Canals, but they believe
that the convenience of
the southern trade will
always require the main-
tenance of such depôt
whether ~~[illegible]~~ the Chin-
gleput salt can be taken
direct to the platforms
at Madras or not-
They refer to the opening of
the Madras Railway
into Salem and Arcot as being likely
to enhance greatly the
demand for Madras salt.

3\. In spite however of the Board's
recommendation the Gov^t
are not prepared to es-
tablish a second store
at Madras; there are
obvious advantages
in having only one,
especially in the more

economical superintendence - In addition to this it is to be observed that it would take many months before the Platform could be made, and supplied with salt, and the Government hope that in so long time the junction Canal between the Cuvum and the Adyar will be open - and this will go far to remove the necessity for a second store -

As regards the alleged inconvenience and delay at the Madras store, probably attention & care on the part of the Superintendent will diminish these; and should additional measures be required, the Government will be prepared to attend to an application to that effect. The attention of the Collector of Madras should be called to the subject.

To be inserted in place of para 3 in the Draft -

3. The Government are disposed to approve generally of the proposal. Though there are obvious advantages in having only one store for Madras, especially in the more economical superintendence, they are of opinion that the argument which has reference to increased demand consequent on the completion of the railway into the interior, is so strong, that even the junction between the Cuvum & Adyar rivers will not render the proposed platform by any means without use. The Board will therefore be good enough to obtain as early as practicable from Mr Shubrick, a detailed account of the arrangements he would propose, stating the precise spot at which he would establish a depôt; the nature & extent of the platform & storms place; what amount of salt should be kept there; and any other particulars, in order that Government may be at once enabled to pass finial orders on the subjects.

4 As regards Paras
12 & 13 of the Board's Pro-
=ceedings under consideration
viz. The Police arrangements
complained of by Mr.
Shubrick, the Government
observe that these latter
are open to some obvious
objections, and are not
such as they consider
ought to be permanent=
They seem nevertheless to
have been effective for
their immediate purpose.
The new Police will how-
ever be introduced into South
Arcot in a few months, and
the arrangement complained
of will then be discontinued
5 Mr. Shubrick de-
-clines (Para 8) to recommend
any increase in improving
the approaches to the
Sumasspa Gunta & Pungalam
Salt

salt stores, but as the country to the West of them is almost wholly in the North Arcot District, the Board have called for the opinion of the Collector of that District on the subject.

6 The Govt concur in the remarks of the Board (Para 15) on the subject of inland Depots for the sale of salt.

7. The Govt cannot understand there being "no remedy" as stated by Mr. Shubrick* for the bad quality of the salt at all the pans in his district.

It is certain that the quality of the salt made at any place depends greatly on the care exercised by the Superintendents. The makers receive the same price for their salt whether good or bad, and it is their interest therefore to deliver superior salt. But it is the duty of the Supt. of the Pans to refuse such salt, & rigidly to cause all below a certain standard to be thrown back again into the waters, where this duty is performed the quality of the salt soon improves; and the Govt must therefore ascribe the uniformly bad quality of the Chingleput salt to neglect on the part of the Salt Dept. servants. Mr. Shubrick's careful attention should be directed to this subject.

8. The rough sketch maps promised by Mr. Shubrick in the last para of

* Letter Sept 19th Para 12

If this letter do not appear to have been submitted to Government.

Copy in a Letter to ...
of 15.6.1860 No 64

AP 30 Jun 57 - 5-9
8-7-57
10 C. 10 7
4-X-59

Q. The attention of the Secretary should be drawn to the concluding part of para 6 of the Board's Proceedings under consideration. Probably attention & care on the part of the Superintendent will diminish the inconveniences complained of: should additional measures be required the Government will be prepared to attend to an application to that effect.

Recommended

Copy to Inspr. Genl of Police with Roll No 6 of Letter from Secy to Govt of Bengal dy 18 Feby 1859 No: 255.

11 Copies - Board of Revenue
with 10 Enclos