M.R.O. 14—10,000—21-4-22.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue **DEPARTMENT.**

G.O. No. 694	Press Mis.
14-15	
Dated 1-5- 1866.	

Not to be folded or roughly handled

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

No. 14. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 19th April 1860, No. 1,892:—

Read the following letter from J. SILVER, Esq., Collector of Tinnevelly, to J. D. SIM, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, Fort Saint George, dated 7th April 1860, No. 126:—

In forwarding a further Report from Captain Phipps in continuation of his examination of the Pearl Banks off this Coast, I have the honor to draw the particular attention of the Board and Government to the singular and unexplained circumstances of "Soorem" having been found in abundance on a Bank last year, and none found on the same Bank this year; and of a Bank thickly covered with Oysters last year, having been found nearly blank this year.

FURTHER REPORT OF THE EXAMINATION OF PEARL BANKS OFF TUTICORIN.

THOLAYERUM PAR.—This is the most extensive of all the Pearl Banks off Tuticorin. I proceeded to it on Saturday the 31st ultimo leaving Tuticorin at 5 A.M.; there being no land wind the Canoes had to be rowed all the way, and we did not reach the Bank until 11 A.M. The Divers went down several times and brought up Pearl Oysters. After remaining a short time and anchoring a Buoy, the Boatmen were all so much exhausted, that I decided on returning to Tuticorin. On the 2nd instant there was no land wind, but in the afternoon I sent the Schooner "Sebastian" out, and at 4 A.M. on the 3rd I left again in a Conoe with a good land, wind and reached the Bank at 9 A.M. The result of the examination was most satisfactory, healthy Oysters thick and deep over most part of the Bank; the Canoes were separated, having a Diver in each, and the usual signal for Oysters being found was seen continually. Those brought up were I consider about three or three and half years' old, and this Bank will, should no unforeseen misfortune befall it, yield a most extensive Pearl Fishery in 1864. No Soorem or Kallicoy was found although the report of the examination made last year shows that Soorem existed in large quantities.

KUTADIA PAR.—This is a moderate-sized Bank, and it is now thickly covered with healthy Oysters of same age as those on Tholayerum par and are free from Soorem or Kallicoy.

PASSEE PAR.—The last year's report of this Bank states that there were Oysters in large quantities; this year from some unknown cause it is nearly blank. The Divers brought up a few young Oysters. No Soorem or Kallicoy was found.

Submitted for the information of Government in continuation of the Board's Proceedings, dated 13th April 1860, No. 1,779.

2. One of the Pearl Banks examined by Captain Phipps gives promise of a large Fishery in 1864, and is now free from "Soorem" which last year were found on it. The second Bank is also thickly covered with healthy Oysters of the same age. The third Bank, on which last year abundance of Oysters were found, is now nearly blank. Captain Phipps should endeavour to ascertain the causes of these changes.

(A true Copy and Extract.)

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

No. 15. ORDER THEREON, 1st May 1860, No. 694.

Ordered to be recorded.

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

No. 1,892.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE, dated 19th April 1860.

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ENCLOSURE No. 1.

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(A true Copy and Extract.)

J. D. Sim

Secretary.

To J. D. Bourdillon, Esq., Secretary to Government, R. D.

Copy to J. Silver, Esq., Collector of Tinnevelly.

Exd. J. Wright.

30½ Apl 60 No 167 & 168.

Copy in a Letter to Lieutnd
d/1st June 1860 No 54

No 14 & 15.

23d April 60 25th

Rec'd 1860. Department
Pro: of Govt W. Coast
No 838.

Proceedings of the
Board of Revenue.

Dated 19th
Dep. 23d
Rec'd 23d } April 1860.

No 1892.

From — Do — 25th May 60
Ce No 1090 infra.

Submitting for
information a letter from the
Collector of Tinnevelly forward-
-ing a further report from
Captain Phipps in continua-
-tion of his examination of
the Pearl Banks off this
Coast. No 694
Recorded.
1st May 1860.

Dtto Thomas, 30th April 1860 No
Dtto to be returned