M.R.O. 14—10,000—21-4-22

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue **DEPARTMENT.**

G.O. No. 835 — Press ~~Mis.~~

42—43

Dated 23—5— 1860.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

No. 42. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 30th April 1860, No. 2,082.

Read letter from the Collector of Tinnevelly, dated 19th March 1860, No. 101, on the subject of utilizing the spontaneous Salt of the District.

(In Con., 26th March 1860, No. 1,387.)

In Con., 23rd February 1860, No. 352.

The Board resolve to submit the above letter to Government in reference to paragraph 8 of their Proceedings, dated 21st February 1860, No. 272.

2. Mr. Silver does not view the proposal to utilize the Salt in question in a favorable light, and states that he considers it more advisable to destroy it as hitherto, than to attempt to make use of it.

3. In support of this view, he represents that the Salt referred to is of very bad quality and unwholesome. He also says that the traders and others are unwilling to buy it even at the reduced rate of 8 Annas a maund; and he points out the difficulty of guarding the localities where the Salt is formed. The Collector has forwarded two specimens of the Salt which are certainly not equal in appearance, the spontaneous Salt of other Districts, which has come before the Board, being small in grain and white.

3. The Board give due weight to these representations, but they are inclined to take a more favorable view than the Collector does of the project of storing and selling this Salt on account of Government.

4. They are aware of the opinion which is usually expressed by Natives in regard to the unwholesomeness of spontaneous Salt, but they think this opinion is engendered more by prejudice than by facts; and they also see reason to believe that the opposition and objections which are made by the Natives to any arrangements for appropriating spontaneous Salt, arise in a great measure from interested motives, as it is obvious that when Government step in to utilize Salt of this kind, a check is put to the illicit use and smuggling of it, which is scarcely interfered with under the plan of periodically destroying it.

5. Mr. Levinge considered that if no preventive measures for its destruction were taken, the swamp Salt would amount to 1,000 garces, in which Mr. Silver, the present Collector, agrees with him.

6. The Board are not satisfied that the spontaneous Salt of Tinnevelly cannot be advantageously collected and sold on behalf of Government as it is in other Districts, both for Home consumption and Export; and they think that a limited experiment should be tried, in view to putting the question beyond doubt.

7. They, therefore, recommend that the Collector should be directed to store and sell the Salt formed at the two places named in the margin, reporting his arrangements and the result of them after a trial of a year, for the information of Government.

	Garces.
Vypaur	300
Tuticorin	200
Garces .	500

8. The Board consider that, in the first instance, the Collector should only store in all 500 garces, and that he should sell the Salt on the same terms as the manufactured Salt is sold.

(A true Extract).

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

No. 43. ORDER THEREON, 23rd May 1860, No. 835.

1. The Government approve the course proposed by the Board.

2. When Mr. Clarke visits Tinnevelly in the course of his tour of inspection, he should give his particular attention to the arrangements in connection with the spontaneous Salt.

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

IN CON. 26TH MARCH 1860, No. 1,387.

From J. SILVER, Esq., Collector of TINNEVELLY,
dated Tinnevelly, 19th March 1860, No. 101.

With reference to the order of the Board of Revenue, dated the 24th ultimo, No. 999, annexed to the Proceedings of the Madras Government of the 21st idem, No. 272, calling for a report on the subject of paragraph 8 of the above Proceedings, I have the honor to inform you, that from enquiries instituted by me, it appears, that if no preventive measures are used, the quantity of spontaneous salt which may be formed in this district will be about 1,000 garce per annum as shewn in the margin.

	Garce.
Vypaur...	300
Munjuncolum.... ...	100
Arasady...	40
Tuticorin	200
Paliacoil..	250
Coilpatam...	100
Coolasagarapatam... ...	7
Veziapathy...	3
	1,000

2. The traders and others are unwilling to buy this salt, and state as their reason, that even if it were purchased by them at 8 Annas per maund, being 10 Annas less than the present monopoly price, they cannot get a sale for it, unless they mix it with good salt, and sell it in retail, at a comparatively low price. They further state that the salt thus mixed will be purchased only by the poorer classes and that the purchasing of the swamp salt would prove disadvantageous to them, and be an obstacle to their traffic.

3. The salt chowkeydars, merchants and others, are unanimously of opinion, that swamp salt formed in this district, being of very bad quality, would cause dysentery and bowel complaints. It is now used only by the very poorest classes of people on the sea coast, and by the fishermen to cure their fish; and this they do clandestinely.

4. The salt peshcar reports, that independent of the above disadvantages the localities where the salt forms, cannot be guarded effectually, even if a large establishment were entertained for the purpose, as they sometimes extend a distance of from 4 to 14 miles from the regular kotars.

5. Under the foregoing circumstances, and as it is considered generally, that the use of swamp salt formed in this district, would prove injurious to health, I consider it would be more advisable to destroy it, than to turn it to account for sale. Specimens* of this salt are forwarded for the inspection of the Board.

* 2 Packets.

Exd. J. Tulloch.

1860 Dept.

Enclosure 1 in Board's Proceedings of the Board of Revenue & the Secretary to Govt. Revenue Department dated 30th April 1860 No. 2,082.

C. 2. Bottles of salts.

Letter from the Collector of Tinnevelly to the Secretary to the Board of Revenue dated 19th March 1860 No. 101. Forwarding the salts.

No. 2,082.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE, dated 30th April 1860.

Read letter from the Collector of Tinnevelly, dated 19th March 1860, No. 101, on the subject of utilizing the spontaneous Salt of the District.

(In Con., 26th March 1860, No. 1,387.)

In Con., 23rd February 1860, No. 852.

The Board resolve to submit the above letter to Government in reference to paragraph 8 of their Proceedings, dated 21st February 1860, No. 272.

2. Mr. Silver does not view the proposal to utilize the Salt in question in a favorable light, and states that he considers it more advisable to destroy it as hitherto, than to attempt to make use of it.

3. In support of this view, he represents that the Salt referred to is of very bad quality and unwholesome. He also says that the traders and others are unwilling to buy it even at the reduced rate of 8 Annas a maund; and he points out the difficulty of guarding the localities where the Salt is formed. The Collector has forwarded two specimens of the Salt which are certainly not equal in appearance, the spontaneous Salt of other Districts, which has come before the Board, being small in grain and white.

3. The Board give due weight to these representations, but they are inclined to take a more favourable view than the Collector does of the project of storing and selling this Salt on account of Government.

4. They are aware of the opinion which is usually expressed by Natives in regard to the unwholesomeness of spontaneous Salt, but they think this opinion is engendered more by prejudice than by facts; and they also see reason to believe that the opposition and objections which are made by the Natives to any arrangements for appropriating spontaneous Salt, arise in a great measure from interested motives, as it is obvious that when Government step in to utilize Salt of this kind, a check is put to the illicit use and smuggling of it, which is scarcely interfered with under the plan of periodically destroying it.

5. Mr. Levinge considered that if no preventive measures for its destruction were taken, the swamp Salt would amount to 1,000 garces, in which Mr. Silver, the present Collector, agrees with him.

6. The Board are not satisfied that the spontaneous Salt of Tinnevelly cannot be advantageously collected and sold on behalf of Government as it is in other Districts, both for Home consumption and Export; and they think that a limited experiment should be tried, in view to putting the question beyond doubt.

7. They, therefore, recommend that the Collector should be directed to store and sell the Salt formed at the two places named in the margin, reporting his arrangements and the result of them after a trial of a year, for the information of Government.

	Garces.
Vypaur.....	300
Tuticorin.....	200
Garces...	500

8. The Board consider that, in the first instance, the Collector should only store in all 500 garces, and that he should sell the Salt on the same terms as the manufactured Salt is sold.

(A true Extract.)

Secretary.

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

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

Exd. J. Wright.

Pro: 29th Feby/60 No: 586
" 8th July/59 " 57

No 42 & 43.

Revenue 1860 Depart.
Pro: of 31st May
No: 947

Proceedings of the
Board of Revenue
Dated 30th April 1860.
Desp.d 5th May ——
Rec.d 7 —— Do ——
£-1- with 6 bottles of salt.
No: 2082.

No: 835. 23d May

Submitting a letter from the Coll.r of Innerwelly reporting on the subject of utilizing the Spontaneous Salt of the District and recommending that the Coll.r be directed to store and sell the salt formed at Vypoor and Tuticorin, reporting his arrangements and the result of them after a trial of a year for the information of Government.—
With an Order

No: 835.

1 To Government approve
as the course proposed by the Board
2 When Mr. Clarke visits
Tinnevelly in the course of his tour of
inspection, he should give his particular
attention to the arrangements in
connection with the spontaneous
salt.

For Sec.y to Govt
23d May 1860

11 Copies. Boards of Revenue Desp.s 25
1 " F. Clarke Esq.r

Coll.r Tinny/R 17th