M.R.O. 14—10,000—21-4-22

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue **DEPARTMENT.**

G.O. No. 2100	Press Mis.
29-30	
Dated 1-11-	18 6f.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
1st November 1861.

No. 29. Read the following letter from Messrs. ARBUTHNOT & Co., to T. PYCROFT, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George, dated Madras, 11th October 1861 :—

SIR,

With reference to our letter of the 4th April last, and to the Proceedings of Government thereon, we have now the honor to hand you the accompanying certificate in proof that the interest in question is devoted to religious purposes, and to request that you will be so good as to lay the same before the Honorable the Governor in Council, in order that our application for the exemption of the interest from Income Tax may be granted, and a refund made of the tax which has already been deducted.

No. 30. ORDER THEREON, 1st November 1861, No. 2,100.

Referring to the mode in which the sum in question came into the possession of Government in 1727, and to the document received with the foregoing letter, the Governor in Council resolves to declare exempt from Income Tax under Section 133, Act XXXII of 1860, the interest on the 20,000 Star Pagodas referred to, as being devoted to religious public purposes.

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

Moi soussigné Ch. Aymeri Prêtre Lazariste et Procureur des Missions des Prêtres de la Congregation de la Mission (autrement dits Prêtres Lazaristes) en chine, atteste à qui de droit que l'interêt du Bond pour (20,000) vingt mille pagodes à l'étoile daté du 1.er Avril 1727 et accordé par le President et Gouverneur du Fort Saint Georges en conseil au Père Claude Morisel pour le compte des jésuites Missionnaires en chine portant interêt au taux du 6 pour cent par an, payable tous les ans le 1.er Avril, lequel Bond est passé de la possession des Missionnaires jésuites de chine, à la possession des Missionnaires Lazaristes de chine le 8 Mai 1785, atteste que le dit interêt est employé et consacré à des usages religieux, la somme provenant de ces interêts étant employée dans les diverses Missions que les Prêtres Lazaristes administrent en chine, pour subvenir aux diverses dépenses nécessaires pour la conservation et la propagation de la Religion Chrétienne dans ces contrées.

En foi de quoi j'ai écrit de ma main et signé la présente déclaration, et je l'ai munie du sceau de mon office.

Shanghay le 3 Septembre de l'an 1861

Ch. Aymeri
Procureur des Missions
des Lazaristes en chine

Vu pour légalisation
de la signature du R. P.
A. Aymeri ci-dessus apposée.
Shanghai, le 3 Septembre 1861.
Pour le Consul absent et par son autorisation.
J. Leray

CONSULAT DE FRANCE
SHANG-HAI

No 2100.

No 2100

Referring to the mode in which the Sum in question came into the possession of Government in 1727, and to the document received with the foregoing letter, the Governor in Council resolves to declare exempt from Income Tax under Sec 133 Act XXXII of 1860 the interest on the 20,000 Star Pagodas referred to, as being devoted to religious Public purposes.

By Order &c.
(signed) G. Norton
Chief Secy to Govt

To
The Board of Revenue
Accountant General
Messrs. Arbuthnot & Co.

exemption of the Interest from a
may be granted & a refund made of the Tax
which has already been deducted.

We have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your most Obedient Servants,

Robert Arnold

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
1st November 1861.

Read again letter from T. CLARKE, Esq., Member of the Board of Revenue, dated 25th October and recorded in G. O. 22nd December 1860, No. 2,476.

No. 31. ORDER THEREON, 1st November 1861, No. 2,101.

1. In this letter Mr. Clarke gives the results of his inspection of the Salt works of Nellore and of part of those of Madras and the Kistna District. The report enters more into detail than is necessary, but contains much useful information and many valuable suggestions. The Government will briefly notice those parts which require their orders.

2. Mr. Clarke begins with the extensive works at and near Ennore, which supply the Madras Depôt. His notice of these works extends from paragraph 2 to paragraph 45 of the report. Paragraphs 2 to 22 are occupied with an account of the pans and of the mode of manufacture. No orders are required here, except to call the Collector's attention to the remark as to the careless mode of manufacture practised at many of the pans, and the consequent inferiority of the Salt. It is stated (paragraph 20) that the Salt made at these pans is generally of fair quality; and

Paragraphs 14, 15, 17 and 19.

apparently all that is necessary to ensure that the whole shall be good, is a punctual observance of the order so frequently repeated for the rigid rejection of inferior Salt, with care to induce the manufacturers to commence operations at the right season, and to follow a good method.

3. Paragraphs 23 to 27 relate to the means taken to guard the Salt after it is gathered, up to the time when it is transported to the store at Madras; and paragraphs 28 to 37 relate chiefly to the means employed for transporting it thither.

4. As to the former it is evident that but little real check is exercised; and that, as Mr. Clarke says (paragraph 26), if smuggling does not prevail, its absence is not owing to any efficient means of prevention; but he evidently thinks that it does prevail largely. He says (paragraph 27), that he would have suggested some improvement in the organization of the preventive guards, but that it has been resolved to commit the duty of prevention to the Police. The Collectors of those Districts in which this duty has already been transferred to the Police will be called upon to report on the success of the measure, if it has had a fair trial.

5. The means of transporting the Salt to the platforms are very defective; and the consequence is great delay with various consequent evils. The Salt is left for months exposed at the pans, liable to damage by rain, as well as to theft, when Mr. Clarke visited the works 5½ lacs of marcals of Salt were lying along the banks of the canal (paragraph 25), and the whole of the Salt is rarely conveyed to the platforms till December (paragraph 28), a part thus lying out through the monsoon. The manufacturers are paid for only so much of their Salt as reaches the platforms; consequently this delay inflicts heavy loss on them; while it can easily be made a source of illicit gain by the Salt Department servants. Again, the Salt boats are uncovered, and excessive carelessness is practised by the Peons nominally in charge of each boat load. The deficiency of the Salt received into store, compared with the estimated quantity gathered at

Paragraph

the pans, is given by Mr. Clarke (paragraph 35) at from 8 to 11 per cent. And this is probably below the truth, for the Navisindah (paragraph 23) can easily under-estimate the quantity gathered.

6. All this requires careful correction. The Collector's attention should be specially drawn to the subject, and with a Deputy Collector in charge of the Salt Department of the District, the remedy of the existing abuses ought not to be difficult. In fact such abuses ought not to have existed to the extent described.

7. Another serious evil is that the Salt boats employed are evidently insufficient in number (paragraph 28). It is mentioned also (paragraph 32) that at times the passage of the Salt boats is impeded by want of water in the Canal. The attention of the Engineer of the Canal should be drawn to this circumstance; but it may be remarked also that a foot of depth might easily be gained by substituting flat bottomed boats without keels, for those now in use.

8. The expedient suggested in paragraph 31, of constructing landing places at the platform to facilitate the landing of the Salt, should also be attended to; Mr. Kennedy would no doubt be able to plan some efficient landing place.

Round is proof, but fine
it is much inferior

9. Mr. Cunliffe's proposal, noticed in the same paragraph, to have branch Railways to the canal and ditch, with turn-tables and weigh bridges, would no doubt be of great use by lessening the number of people required for conveying the Salt from the boats to the platform; this is an object at all times, to prevent pilfering and waste by trampling, and in this case particularly so, because difficulty in obtaining labor is stated (paragraph 31) to have sometimes impeded the storing of Salt. These paragraphs of the report will be communicated to the Consulting Engineer for Railways.

10. Another injury to which the makers are subject is that the Salt is under-measured when received into store. The rule is that the marcal shall be struck, and that is the practice at Madras in *selling*; but in taking salt into store the marcal is *heaped*, not struck. This is obviously unfair; and it is a breach of positive orders. The Collector's defence of it (paragraph 38) is inadmissible. Greater care in the conveyance of the Salt would prevent the loss which is made the plea for the proceeding. The Salt should be received and sold by the same measurement, as far as that can be ensured, so long as measurement is in use; and if found really necessary, the allowance of five per cent. to wholesale buyers might be increased.

11. Mr. Clarke mentions that the manufacturers ask for an increase in the price paid them for the Salt, which is 10 Rupees a garce. It is evident that the causes noticed in the foregoing paragraphs (3 to 8) operate practically to lower materially the price received by the manufacturers for a given quantity of Salt made. If those causes are removed, so that the whole or nearly the whole of the Salt made shall reach the platform and be paid for, and if, further, the payment is made punctually and exactly and on fair measurement, the present price will virtually be increased, and in the opinion of the Government be sufficient. Its nominal rate is high already in comparison with what is commonly paid elsewhere; and it is a well known fact that the pans have a recognized value, and are readily transferred by sale or mortgage.

12. Paragraphs 39 to 43 relate to the Establishment to be allowed for these works. Mr. Clarke states his opinion that the Establishment proposed by Mr. Pelly is too small. But this subject will come under consideration in reviewing Mr. Pelly's revised scheme of Establishments for the Salt Department.

13. The suggestion that during the manufacturing season the Deputy Peshkar should live on the spot and superintend the operations, appears judicious.

14. In paragraph 44, Mr. Clarke notices the very large proportion at the Madras platform of sales by wholesale, *i. e.*, by entire heaps of twenty garce each, without measurement. In 1859 the wholesale transactions were more than five-sixths of the whole. He suggests that Government might properly withdraw entirely from the retail sale. It is very desirable no doubt that the sales should be in bulk only; but it would not be prudent or safe to refuse to sell otherwise than by heaps. It is necessary that the dealer should have the option of buying by measure, as a protection both from the contingency hinted at in paragraph 38, of the deduction not covering the waste, and also against fraudulent measurement in storing. If small sales are forbidden the Collector will have no means of testing the accuracy of the storage.

15. For reasons stated in paragraph 45, Mr. Clarke did not visit the platforms at Madras and examine the mode of conducting operations there. This is to be regretted; the remarks and suggestions which he has made on other platforms show the value of such independent and intelligent inspection. The Madras platforms are by far the largest throughout the whole Presidency: and as they are close at hand, the Government request that Mr. Clarke will take an early opportunity of inspecting and reporting on them.

Appunelvoy.
Pungolum.
Obasamudram.
Chunnambukolam.

16. Paragraphs 46 to 67 treat of the Salt works at the four villages named in the margin. These villages are situated near together on the southern border of the Pulicat lake, from which they draw their water for the manufacture; they belonged to the late District of Chingleput. According to the description given by Mr. Clarke, these Salt works and the practices prevailing there are very bad. Careless manufacture and consequently an inferior Salt, the stores unguarded, the servants inefficient and corrupt, dealers attracted by illicit and fraudulent advantages, extensive smuggling; such is a summary of what Mr. Clarke found at all these places. They are in an out-of-the-way corner of the District, there are no roads to them, and the sales of Salt are insignificant.

17. On all these considerations the Collector recommended that the whole should be abolished, and Mr. Clarke was at first of the same opinion. On the whole, however, he recommends, for reasons stated in paragraph 62, that one platform and set of pans should be continued, and for this purpose he selects the second platform of Obasamudram. He proposes that it should be transferred to the Nellore District and be put under the Superintendent of Tada, eleven miles distant. He recommends also that a good road should be made from the platform to the northern road on one side, and to Pulicat on the other, a total distance of about twenty miles.

18. The Government concur with Mr. Clarke, and the necessary arrangements will accordngly be made. The construction of the roads proposed will be referred to the Chief Engineer.

19. In paragraph 65, Mr. Clarke notices the delays allowed to occur both in storing the Salt at the four villages above referred to, and also in settling the makers' accounts and paying for the Salt. Both kinds of delay are unjust to the makers, and may be and probably are made the means of extortion.

20. Mr. Clarke mentions in paragraph 67 that he learnt that the Deputy Collector, Mr. Smith, repeatedly visited the villages. This is well, but it is clear that at the time of Mr. Clarke's visit very many and serious abuses remained.

21. Mr. Clarke then goes on to the Nellore District, which occupies the greater part of the remainder of the report, viz., from paragraphs 68 to 191. The first part of this portion of the report, viz., from paragraphs 68 to 121 is a general review of the numbers and distribution of the Salt works, their organization, the mode of manufacture, the management, &c. After this general review, and some remarks as to the Establishment required for the works, Mr. Clarke goes over all the six stations in order. The general review does not call for lengthened comment, but a few points present themselves for remark, which the Government will notice in order as they occur.

Paragraphs 70, 88 and 89.

22. Here also as at Ennore, Mr. Clarke notices the careless mode of manufacture, which both debases the quality of the Salt and lessens the quantity. The Deputy Collector Narrainsawmy Mudali is, however, aware of these defects (paragraph 90) and is exerting himself to correct them; he has already introduced some improvements, both in the administration (paragraph 91) and in the manufacture itself, paragraph 96.

Paragraph 99.

23. Similarly in Nellore as at Ennore the precautions taken to secure the Salt before storage are defective, and loss by weather and by smuggling is the consequence. Here likewise there is delay in storing to the injury of the makers (paragraph 104), and this without the excuses existing at Madras. The power of rejecting inferior Salt, necessarily entrusted to Kottar Superintendents, is stated to be corruptly abused in two ways; good Salt is rejected if the owner will not fee the Superintendent, and bad Salt is admitted if he does so, paragraph 105.

24. The Salt is stated to be received from the makers by fair measurement (paragraph 106), which as above noticed is not the case at Madras. All heaps examined by Mr. Clarke, both of the current and of previous years, were deficient, as they ought to be because Salt always loses on re-measurement. The state of the marcals, however, evinces neglect. Several examined by Mr. Clarke were defective (paragraph 108), some of them being battered and broken, but yet in use. All such have, however, been since called in by the Collector (paragraph 109), and it is hoped that he has taken measures to supply new ones in their place.

25. Paragraph 107 contains some just remarks on the subject of wastage, and on the real causes of large or small waste in the accounts. In the nature of things there must be some loss of bulk and even of weight by time, as well as by manipulation, but there is no doubt that this waste is made a plentiful source of cheating. Over measure is taken in, under the plea of covering waste, and the surplus goes to the profit of the Salt servants. In paragraphs 114 and 115 Mr. Clarke returns to the same subject. The waste in Nellore on the average of the last ten years has been about 7¼ per cent., but it has varied very greatly both in different years, and at the different Kottars. Mr. Clarke expresses the opinion that part of it may be fairly ascribed to weather, floods, deficient care, &c., but that much must be set down to positive fraud. He mentions one case in which a Kottar Superintendent, after a flood, sold several heaps of Salt

Found in pools, but [illegible]
it is much inferio

for his own benefit, and returned them as washed away. The only remedy for these evils is well paid, trustworthy agency and careful supervision.

Paragraphs 100 to 103.

26. With regard to the state of the platforms, Mr. Clarke mentions that they are all well raised above floods, and the Deputy Collector has done much in the short time that he has been in charge to improve them, by filling up gutters, levelling and stamping the top, and sloping and turfing the sides. But all the platforms are without enclosures of any kind; and Mr. Clarke justly points out the necessity of such protection. The Collector will take early measures to carry this suggestion into effect. His attention is also directed to the necessity of improving the approaches to the platforms.

27. The Salt heaps are well covered, (paragraph 113), but this appears to be the result of the Deputy Collector's own exertions.

Paragraphs 116 and 117.

28. Mr. Clarke declares the servants in the Salt Department in this District to be generally extremely inefficient. The particular attention of the Collector will be called to this circumstance. One cause of inefficiency is undoubtedly the insufficient pay of the Department, which is also unpopular and bears a bad character. It is almost impossible to get good men to enter it if any other opening offers itself, and it is not surprising, for the upper servants are much at the mercy of their subordinates. With a good Deputy Collector there will be a security for respectable men which they do not now possess, and good pay will attract servants of better stamp. But the practice of transferring to the Salt Department, men who have failed in other Departments or on whose character there is any slur is fatal to efficiency, and must be peremptorily forbidden. The recent Order of Government vesting Deputy Collectors in charge of the Salt with the appointment and punishment of all their subordinates, under the grade of Superintendents will also tend to the employment of proper persons, as the Deputy Collectors will be held strictly answerable for the proper conduct of business, and have a personal interest in the efficiency of the Department.

29. The remarks in paragraphs 122 to 126 and elsewhere, on the Establishments proposed by Mr. Pelly, will be considered in passing an order on that gentleman's report. But it may be remarked here that they refer to Mr. Pelly's original and tentative scheme; his revised scheme agrees more nearly with what Mr. Clarke recommends.

30. In paragraphs 127 to 181 Mr. Clarke goes in order over the six Salt Divisions, explaining the changes which he recommends in each, and the reasons for them. These changes consist chiefly in the abolition of a number of pans and platforms, and the greater concentration of the manufacture. There are now 52 platforms, viz., 41 for the home and inland trade, and 11 for export; this number Mr. Clarke proposes to reduce to 20; viz., 14 for the home trade and 6 for export. The recommendations respecting each Division are as follow.

31. The first Division is that of Tada. This Division now contains four villages with one more platform each; it is proposed to abolish two, viz., Pudi and Velukadu (the latter on an

Paragraph 128.

island in the Pulicat lake), and the reasons seem fully sufficient. Mr. Clarke was disposed to abolish a third village, Ramapuram, but he yields to the wishes of the local Officers.

32. In lieu of the works on the island of Velukadu it is proposed to establish a Kottar at Kattupalli on the border of the lake, for the sake of collecting, storing and selling the spontaneous Salt produced thereabouts. This seems judicious; the new Kottar is to be attached to the division of Durgarazpatam, which place is only twelve miles distant.

Paragraph 128.

33. It is also proposed that one of the three platforms at Tada should be given up and the pans concentrated about the remaining two.

* Mallam.
Suppili.
Kottapatnam.

34. The next division is that of Durgarazpatam. This also now contains four Salt villages, of which Mr. Clarke proposes to abolish three,* mainly for smuggling, but also because the legitimate sales are extremely small and the Depôts are therefore not required. In place of these Kattupally as already noticed, is proposed to be added to this division.

Paragraph 133.

35. Improvement is required to make the platform at Durgarazpatam more accessible. The Collector in communication with the District Engineer should report as to which of the two plans for that object noticed by Mr. Clarke should be preferred.

Paragraph 142.

36. The third division is Kistnapatam. It is proposed to abolish the small Salt works at Mutukur.

37. Improvements in the approaches are suggested in paragraphs 143 and 144, which should receive the Collector's early notice.

38. At Gengapatam a detached station of this division, the business does not seem to be well conducted, and the attention of the Deputy Collector should be drawn to it.

39. The attention of the Collector and of the Board will also be called to the expediency of providing scales for the Salt Treasuries.

40. Some years ago the Government resolved to permit the manufacture of Earth Salt in the Ceded Districts, on account of their distance from the coast. It appears from paragraph 150 of this report, that Earth Salt is actually brought into the Nellore District, and competes even there with Sea Salt. From this instance there seems no doubt that the Revenue must largely suffer from this manufacture. This Salt is taxed in Bellary under the Muhturfa and also in parts of Kurnool, but not in Cuddapah. Its manufacture in these three Districts is known and permitted. Mr. Plowden recommended that the manufacture should be excised with the same duty as Marine Salt, so that both might compete on even terms in the market, and Government realize as much duty from the one as the other. This undoubtedly is the correct principle, the difficulty is in applying it without keeping up establishments which would eat up the revenue derived and practice frauds of every kind. Earth Salt is made surreptitiously in every District. More of course in the inland. But there is no reason why the people of the Ceded Districts, should alone legally enjoy this privilege. The Board will be desired to report on it; now that the Muhturfa is abolished, it is necessary that the subject be carefully considered.

41. The fourth division is that of Eskapilly containing several Kottars, though the largest by far is that at Eskapilly itself. The division contains

Paragraphs 151 to 167.

numerous platforms both for the inland trade and for export.

42. Mr. Clarke recommends for reasons stated that the export Depôts at Gogalapally (paragraph 159) consisting of two platforms, should be abolished, and one of the two inland platforms, paragraphs 157 and 159; also that the Kottar at Juvaladinnai be closed (paragraph 165); as well as the export Depôt at Jummalapentah, the works there on the south of the river, being also closed (paragraph 167). These recommendations seem all to be judicious; some other improvements are recommended in connection with this division, which should receive the Collector's attention.

43. The fifth division contains only two stations, those of Binganapalli and Pakala, at both there are export Depôts formed a few years ago, but the export has been extremely small. It is recommended that both Depôts should be abolished; also that the whole station of Binganapalli should be given up (paragraph 169), and also some pans in Pakala.

44. The sixth division contains four Salt stations. The report made of this division is

Paragraphs 171 to 181.

unfavorable. The Salt is inferior, owing in great part to the dust blown on the pans from the adjoining black cotton ground, and the servants are badly spoken of. The northern station of Kamparti, however, is an exception in both respects. It is recommended that the stations at Allur and Devarampadu should be entirely closed; and that of the four platforms at each of the remaining stations, one at each should be abolished.

45. Paragraph 179 contains some judicious remarks as to the alleged necessity of maintaining Kottars at short distances from each other. The argument drawn from the state of things at Chinnaganjam seems to show clearly that such frequent Kottars are not necessary for the public convenience, while it is certain that such scattered works greatly increase the facilities to fraud. No general rule can, however, be laid down, each case must be decided on its own merits and the interests of the people considered no less than those of the Government.

Kaut is poor, Nut fuller
it is much inferior

46. The recommendations for the abolition of pans and platforms are concurred in by the Collector; with two exceptions, viz., Tupily in the Durgarazpatam and Divarampadu in the Padurty division. The Government do not object to these being retained for the present. As regards the others, Mr. Clarke's proposals are sanctioned. Compensation has never been given in Nellore, but for capital sunk in the pans and thus lost to the owners, it is fairly due whenever a pan is closed merely for the convenience of Government and there has been no stipulation against the grant. This right of course lapses when smuggling and misconduct are mainly the cause of the abolition, and also when the demand for Salt has fallen off materially from change in the course of trade.

47. KISTNA DISTRICT.—The rest of the report (paragraphs 192 to 198) relates to the Chinnaganjam store in the Kistna District. Replying to an order which referred the question to him, Mr. Clarke recommends that these works should not be transferred to Nellore. They are very extensive and the Nellore Deputy Collector has already a coast line of 150 miles to attend to. He could not therefore duly supervise this station, while the Kistna Deputy Collector can do so, and if relieved of this charge would have little to do. This argument seems valid, and the transfer appears undesirable. The Nellore Deputy Collector has as much as he can do, in superintending the pans in his 150 miles of coast; and it is even a question whether some of the northern Nellore pans might not with advantage be placed in charge of the Kistna Deputy Collector.

Paragraph 193.

48. The arrangements at Chinnaganjam are stated to be very good, but the Salt of the then current year was very inferior. A subordinate of the Department Public Works is specially charged with the duty of doing promptly such repairs as may be wanted; and Mr. Clarke was struck with the neatness and order observable. Mr. Clarke recommends that the export of Salt by sea from this place should be given up, the good port of Nizampatam being close at hand. He also suggests alterations in the platforms, &c., all of which seem desirable and are sanctioned.

Paragraph 195.

49. At this Depôt also as at Madras the Salt is stored by the heaped and pressed measure; and the consequence is that purchasers are attracted to it from other pans, and the wastage accounts are worthless. The practice must be stopped and if renewed should lead to the immediate removal of the principal servants. If it prevails also at the other pans of this District it must be peremptorily forbidden. The attention of the Deputy Collector should be specially called to the subject and he should be held answerable for the strict observance of the rules.

50. The Superintendent of these pans is vested with magisterial powers, and the consequence is that much of his time is taken up with this kind of duty, and his proper duty at the pans is neglected. The Government are not aware under what circumstances or what authority these powers were given, and request full information on the subject.

51. It is the practice at this Kottar as at many others to pay for no Salt till the whole quantity for the season has been stored. This is unfair to the makers; the Salt should be paid for, at least, monthly as Mr. Clarke suggests and as the rules require.

52. For some reasons not apparent the Superintendent of the Chinnaganjam station is independent of the Deputy Collector in charge of the Salt, and corresponds direct with the Collector. This is improper and is quite opposed to the intentions of Government; the Deputy Collector will now be placed in the same position of control over this station as over others.

Paragraph 198.

53. Mr. Clarke was much pleased with Mr. DeConceicao's, the late Deputy Collector of the Kistna District, by whose death the Government have lost a very valuable servant. He also gives a very high character for integrity, efficiency, and zeal to C. Narrainswami Mudali, the Nellore Deputy Collector, who was selected by him as his special Assistant for the longer tour of inspection. The Government have already promoted Narrainswami Mudali for his good services. Mr. Clarke also speaks well of Mr. Nailer, Superintendent of Chinnaganjam, who however having been only lately appointed was not then fully acquainted with his duties.

54. There is one point which materially affects the manufacture of salt, which is not noticed in this report viz., the occasional closing of pans for a season, owing to the manufacture of the previous year having been too large. It is not always practicable to judge of the exact quantity required; but still with care the usual average requirements might be pretty well ascertained. This is important in justice to the makers, as well as to ensure their willing and hearty exertions to produce a good article. With a Deputy Collector in charge of the Salt in each District, and able to give time to the subject, material fluctuations in the manufacture at each station and pan ought to be avoided.

55. Mr. Clarke's report enters so fully into detail and shows so strongly how much the Department might be improved by means at the command of every Collector, that it should be circulated by the Board to the Collectors. With slight variations much the same state of affairs will be found to prevail in other Districts.

56. The Government cannot close these proceedings without recording their appreciation of the able and complete manner in which Mr. Clarke has performed the duty assigned to him.

(Signed) J. D. SIM,

Secretary to Government.

Kaut is poor, not fine
It is much inferior

94-L-69+

Revenue 1861 Dept.
Re- of Superintendent Nilgiris.
No 2101
Rec'd 9th Madras Govt
9th November 1861

Note.

Mr Clarke herewith submits to his report of his Examination of the Salt Depots to the North of Madras.

Mr Clarke inspected the Salt works of the Madras District - (North of Madras town) West of Nellore & the Chinnapanjam Pass of the Krishna Dist -

His Report goes fully into details and contains much valuable matter -

The main points of his report on the Madras Pans are the following.

I. Quality of the Salt.

The Salt of particular Pans is good, but generally it is much inferior

what it may it be.
This is owing in some
measure to natural
causes, but far more
to want of care in the
manufacture. No system
is observed but each
man follows his own
plan - The Insp. each
year circulates a
paper of instructions
on the subject - the only
means however of en-
forcing care in manu-
facture is the systematic
rejection of all salt which
does not come up to a
proper standard of
fineness - This course
is enjoined in the Ct.
Circular orders, but
from Mr Clarke's re-
-port is not carried out
stringently enough in
practice - No time
could be better for

reform in this respect
than the present, when
the Depots are amply
stocked with salt - Un-
structures similar to
those about in Madras
may it be circulated
in the Northern Districts with
advantage but unless
Colrs will reject bad
salt in strict mercy, there
will be little general
improvement - The
early part of the season
is most favorable for
the manufacture of
salt and there seems
no reason why the Ma-
nufacturers ~~of the Coast~~
should not be required
to deliver a portion of
their supply early in
the year - There is one
other incentive to good
manufacture which
Mr Clarke does not
notice - viz the giving
a better price for

a superior article. If the Excise System were in the Hands, the Purchaser would always give the preference to the finer & salt & the Makers of bad would have his Manufactures left on his hands. Under the Monopoly System there is no similar inducement ~~to~~ to improve the quality of the Salt, for the same price is given for the best as for the worst. There would be some difficulty perhaps in presenting a Scale, if a sliding scale of prices according to quality were introduced, but an Active Deputy Collector might at present & much of this, especially as it be the Collectors have samples, and the other Manufacturers

2 would cry out if they were unfairly dealt with. Mr Pelly is now employed in revising the rates of "the Bengal" and he might at once have his attention drawn to this point. With a reward for good salt and the steady rejection of bad salt, considerable improvement might be effected in this important particular and with a close Inspection it is clearly the duty of public officers the people with a really good article.

III. Preventive Establishments. These are miserably inefficient by Mr Clarke's account. The pens are too few. They are ever worked & scarcely under any

Supervision - In Bom-
bay there is a double
establishment also
every Salt work - one
under the Collector
of Salt Revenue, manufacture,
Store & Sale - and
an other one, quite
Separate, which is
purely Preventive - No
Salt passes out of
any work in Bombay
coming under the
Cognizance of this
Establishment &
the two establishments
check each other - The
same system prevails
in Bengal - Here the
Experiment of trans-
ferring the Preventive
Service & the Municipal
Police is now being tried,
and there is no reason
why it should not
succeed. We shall

then have a check
independent check
which it is hopeless
to expect under the
present system -

III. Delay in bringing
the Salt to the Markets

Dispt. This, from in-
sufficiency of Boats
& Labor, is excessive
and most unjust
to the Manufacturers
who incur risks &
are not paid until
the Salt is stored - The
Chief Supt. has within
the last few days ad-
dressed the Bd. on the
subject of employing a
few steamers on this
work, but either these
or by some other means
more expeditious means
must be devised for
bringing the Salt to Mkt.
Boats - If this cannot

be done. delivery should be taken at convenient places on the Canal, until fr. can effect the removal of the Salt - The Manufacturers are now exposed to great risks & losses & the opportunity afforded for illicit practices is very great - It seems a question whether under any circumstances it would not be better to receive the Salt at the Ports - or rather at convenient places along the Canal - There might be some difficulty in getting men & aid in shipping the Salt - but they might be arranged with the Manufacturers. The arrangements for the transit of the

3 Salt on the Canal are also very defective. It is brought in open Boats under insufficient guard - and as it is shipped in estimate only, there is ample opportunity for fraud & smuggling.

III. Insufficiency of the price paid for Salt.

This subject is under Mr Kelly's consideration. The Manufacturers have a number of incidental duties & perform, and it may be necessary to consider whether relief from some of these may not be advantageous and operate as virtually an increase of price - These duties are imposed on them because in fact they monopolise all the available labor of the

locality and without them cooperation it wd be impossible for a Coloy. Phaie to keep Notwithstanding he is to be paid for such work they should not be saddled with risks, as they now are. It is not long since Mr Campbell - the late Supt of Salt at Goderich took up a number of farms himself - and his previous skirmishes. Letters must have enabled him to form a pretty fair judgment whether they would pay or not. The farms also selected for good prices and they are readily marketable facts at variance with the alleged circumstances of the price paid for the Salt. for. Besides a handsome profit on the Salt and might certainly pay a

liberal price for it - but if the manufacturers were paid for such work as repairing platforms &c. the Men discharged might be employed sufficiently -

V. Improvement of the Goderich Dept. The Consulting Engr has stated upon that it is impossible to say when the Branch Railway will be shewn The improvement to Engr. posted by Mr Clarke wd therefore be undertaken when once Dept - it is doubtful whether the Rail. Roy will do such work as make Engage lay down rails among the heaps &c.

VI. The shallowness of Cochranes Canal - There can be no doubt that

When the Branch Rail and Pier are finished the Mathematical Rules will be greatly increased - Last year the Railway alone conveyed nearly 15000 Tons of Salt. It is of consequence therefore that the Navigation of the Canal should be improved & the Chief Engr's attention might be called to the Subject.

VII. The difference in the out-turn of the Salt when received into Store. The Salt is shipped at the Ports on Estimate - and on receipt the deficiency is found to vary from 7 3/4 to 11 1/3 per cent. Mr. Clarke attributes much of this illicit practice on Estate & there is certainly ample opportunity for this - His

4/ Inspection of having Vats with tops which can be locked is [illegible] worthy of adoption - There will always be some variation between the Estimates & actual measurements but the former may be checked in some degree by having the compartments of the Vats so made as to hold a known quantity. The delay which now takes place in bringing the Salt to Mathematical makes the Salt less pure & make illicit gains by giving privilege of shipment & those who see them -

VIII. Storing by heaped measures. This practice is diametrically opposed to the Rules and Regs which have been allowed by the Comrs. It vitiates all calculations of

wastage - is unfair
to the manufacturer
and affords means
of speculation to the
servants. The "wastage"
at Watneys by the
returns has always
been light - and this
irregular practice sufficiently accounts for
it. The 7½ per cent stated
by Mr Clarke is ~~an~~
limited from the
wastage of 5%. which
occurs after storage.

~~VIII~~. Retail Measures

Mr Clarke remarks
on three subjects which
do not be referred here,
as they will be more
conveniently considered when Mr Kelly's
report on the subject
is taken up.

X. Retail sales. The
sales by the Beer will

a discount of 5%. are
six times as great as
the sales in the smaller
quantities or by "retail"
& Mr Clarke recommends that the latter
be discontinued. The
retail sales however
have no practical convenience. They enable
the [illegible] to test the accuracy of the measures
of they are at his suit.
He will have no means
of knowing whether the
Beer's ~~are~~ really contain 20 pints or much
more. Neither the measures nor the purchasers
can tell which
Beer will be drawn
up for retail sale.
the ~~sale~~ barrels can
not therefore safely
be beat & sold pint
purchasers. Further.
The Retail sales keep up

of the whole sale, still
amounted in 1859/60
to £.M. 120,852 - def.
ficient at 18d. per
head for the consump.
-tion of more than half
a million people - Their
discontinuance therefore
would be a serious matter
for many, and if a
discount of 5% does
not tempt people to
buy whole sale, there
seems no particular
object in compelling
them to do so. The Rep.
at Madras are 20
pence or £.M. $2400 -
just double the up-
country heaps - It will
also be seen by reference
to page 33 of the Report
that the sales inland
by Rail were only £.M
3,46409 in 1859 - so that
a good deal of the

3

£.M. 679200 sold whole
sale is also for local
consumption - a proof
that the small dealers
paid it more
profitable to go direct
to the pot. store and com-
compete with the larger
dealers & with standing
them discount - One would
think that the big dealers
by selling at 3 or 4 per
cent less than the full
pot. price would supply
the retailers - but the sales
show practically that
they must charge some
thing more than the pot.
price or the pot. stores
would not be resorted
to by the small dealers.
On the whole the advan-
tage of closing the re-
tail sales seems questionable
considering how large the
Madras Heaps are.

XI. The Madras Dept.

Mr. Clarke has not
been at the States, to

Examine the Madras Dept. which is to be upsetted, as it is the most important here.

XII Paars. To be attached & transferred. Mr Clarke recommends the closing of 4 paars viz.

Uppuneluvoy.
Pumplam.
Chinnambukolam
&
one of the Annandrum.

These are almost inaccessible to traders & too distant from Madras for effective control. The manufacture is limited - and both the servants inefficient and snuffling by all accounts life. There are other paars within easy reach, so that traders will not be inconvenienced and the attention of these only lying paars seems in every way desirable.

The rest of the Chinnandrum paars Mr Clarke would retain but attach to Tadda the Southern most Station of Nellore. The Supt. of Tadda will be a well paid officer, and though the distance is 11 miles there is an accessible by land & water. The retention of these paars is recommended partly by strong local demand & partly to admit of the Government salt formed in the adjoining Reddipollum creek & shallow pits being utilized. The retention of the paars is however to be conditional on the manufacturers supplying good salt.

Mr Clarke says

Rate of compen-
sation to the Owners
of the abolished Lands.
Of late years, when new
Lands are opened, there
is a stipulation that
no compensation shall
be granted, if they are
closed - but for the
old Lands compensa-
tion is claimable by
Regulation - The claim
ceases by lapse of time, if from
want of demand or
misconduct of the
Manufacturer, the ma-
nufacture has been
discontinued for seven
consecutive years - such
at least is the rule
now followed by the
Bd and it is just
in principle. The com-
pensation in the cases
under consideration
will be much reduced

by the operation of this
rule - where it is granted
it should take the form
of a lump sum once
for all - instead of
annual payments on
certificates as in the
case of the old Madras
Lands -

Mr Clarke Res.
Resolved that when new
Lands are opened at
the retained Stations
the preference shall be
given to the proprietors
of the abolished Lands.
This is fair & reasonable
but the hereditary
right to claim the preference
over strangers - In Ma-
dras some years ago
the Bd ruled that the
resident villagers had
the same preferential right
to new Lands as to
waste lands - The Bd

can be left to arrange
these matters with the
Colr.

XIII. Delay in paying
for salt. This is very
hard on the manu-
facturers - and acts
in reality as a diminu-
tion of the price -
It also affords the Collr
servants means of
Extorting money. Mr
Clarke states that
the Rules, if attended
to & enforced by pun-
ishing careless neglect
in preparing the ac-
counts, will prevent
all unnecessary delay
& they should be carried
out.

XIV. Lastly. Mr Clarke
states the Depy Collr Mr
Smith in favourable
terms - he supplies
"much valuable in-

formation" and
"repeatedly visits the
villages & is very ac-
tive in correcting
abuses".

Paras 6 & 8
of the Report refer to
the Nellore Districts.

In many respects
the practice in this
district & in fits the
defects already noticed
in the case of Madras.
There is the same care-
lessness in manu-
facture - delay in
receiving salt &c &c
The following are the
chief points -

I. The want of a Depôt
of Pans - This is now
being provided by the
Dept of Wks in accordance
with the Rules -

II. The insecure state
of the Platforms - This

also is in breach of Rule. The Pans should be surrounded by hedge & ditch & gateways provided as proposed by Mr Clarke.

III. Abuse of power by the Superintendents in rejecting bad salts & delaying receipts. ~~This~~ This can only be prevented by vigilance on the part of the Cols & his deputy - ~~& the Supt~~ ~~is known to be~~ ~~only~~.

IV. Stowage. This conducted fairly in Bellore. The ~~Scales~~ measures are neither heaped nor unduly filled - & the sale is conducted in the same way - The measures in use are very defective, but the Colr has exerted himself greatly in remedying this - Owing to the intended intro duction

of weighing. The Explan. given on new measures has been kept down as much as possible, & partly the defects as stated by Mr Clarke are partly owing to this cause.

The scales & weights used for Export salt are defective also & it was only after great trouble that the Colr succeeded in getting a few sets. Mr Clarke does not specify any detailed opinion as to the relative merits of weighing & measuring - but he recommends weighing - About 5 years have been spent in getting weighing machines - 3 are under trial & have been selected & tested as - the Mint Master is making up some for further trial - When made

I apprehend they will be found of little use and decidedly inferior, as Mr Clarke thinks, to the ordinary Beam Scales - It is of very little use to introduce weighing, unless the salt is weighed into as well as out of Store - to receive by measure & to sell by weight will leave things in much the same State as at present. for any difference in out-turn will always be attributed to the difference between a measured & a weighed Maund - The new Machines - though very good in their way - will only weigh 1 & 2 Maunds at a time - the Receiver necessitates several trips to the Kerb before it can be filled - and it would be impossible to receive or even sell large quantities of salt with such Machines - In large depots like Madras, a weigh-bridge on Each Wharf would answer well - elsewhere scales as Mr Clarke suggests will answer best - Before any large expence is incurred on the new Machines, it would be well to ask the Collr of Madras whether he is prepared to receive all his salt by weighment with such Machines -

71 L H. M.A

The case of the Shipment on the Alma is left by Mr Clarke's Enquiries in much the same Doubt as before, but what he saw of the Scales & weights in use served to show him that it was not at all impracticable that short weights was given. The Collr might at once have Scales sent him - but there seems no use in fixing the Maund Weights. which would be about 20 lbs and a fraction. In fact a single Maund Weight very

8/ 9

Will be made the Minimum of Sale. every where instead of the Maund.

V. Covering of Bales.

The Surveyor's plan of using mats in lieu of thatch is being tried. But the result of the Experiment was not reported to Mr Clarke. It was suggested to the Bd. several years ago - and some thing ought to be known of it by this time.

VI. Wastage. The average of ten years in Nellore is 7 per cent. Returns of Wastage are not received by the Collr. but come before the Bd 4 pct. annually. But they are not worth much as a check - there is a standard rate for Rock Districts - if this is not exceeded no remark is made,

unless it be one of
commendation - If the
excess is large, enquiry
is made but not often
with much success.
So long as the Salt Ser-
vants are allowed to
receive by heaped &
pressed measure &
can practically put
more than 10 pounds
into a 10 pound sack &
contain that quantity
the Wastage returns will
not be reliable - Even
concentrating heaps -
which is the present
check, is not of much
value, for a considerable
excess can be con-
cealed by skilful
measurers - A good
preventive establish-
ment, in connection
with the selling & storing
servants & receipts as
well as sales by weight
will alone put down
frauds - It has also

seem rather too much
the habit & consider
a deficiency in the
out-turn of a cask
as proof of fraud - It
is often the reverse, for
such deficiency can al-
ways be prevented by
excess storage - a
very simple & certain
safe process - with a
supervision in the charge
of the salt, much of
the present frauds &
malpractices will be
prevented - at all events
an honest man may
look his own in the
dept. and thus a better
class of servants be
introduced.

VI Salt Servants. The
selling district seems
to be managed fairly
& in respect of good
servants # there can be
of this is undoubtedly
the insufficiency of

~~of this sort of thing noticed~~ / of insufficiency,

the Dept. which is
unpopular & bears
a bad character. It
is abused in proportion
& yet people more flock to
it, if any other opening
offers itself - and it
is at our prices. For
they are quite at the
mercy of their retailers.
rates - If a Dept is
honest and Troubles
some - nothing is easier
than to over-store some
of his heads - and give
intimation to the
Coll.r - With a good Dist.
Coll.r there will be a
security for respectable
men which they do
not now possess - and
good pay will attract
servants of better stamp.
But the practice of
transferring to the
Salt Dept. men who
are failed in their
dept.s or on whose cha

9

-racter there is any
slur is fatal and
should be peremptorily
forbidden -

VII. Roads. Mr Clarke
points out that there
are literally no roads
to the plat forms - or
the Pans - At Jadia,
Hough the plat forms
are only half a ℔ mile
distant salt sells at
16 per cent more than
the mon.ply price -
These Losses are the
retail prices and per-
haps Mr Clarke has
not made sufficient
allowance for them - a
farce at 135 Rs is about
5¼ pice per Seer - if
the retailer charges the
nearest coin viz 6 pice,
the price at once rises
to 150 Rs for farce or a
little more than 11 ℔
But there can be no

2nd That the Com-
munications with
the salt Roads are
not in Forks other
generally and that
pt. like much in
consequence - greatly
shaking these lines
are short and lead
into the Trunk or
other chief roads which
run parallel with
the Coast. These lines
should be put in
order as soon as pos.
- sible and where they
are not too long the
Cols might have
charge of the ordinary
repair of them. The
Depts/ Mr can always
pts the assistance
the Manufacturers
Laborers & he can do
the small repairs
required promptly &
cheaply. I am sure
it would even more
pmt economy &
add two arms as
more & the monopoly
price & secure the
means of making
pmt communi-
-cations & the coast-
The pt. have of late
years spent a pmt
deal of money in
making roads in
Nelson from the Trunk
road Westwards, in-
-land, but the con-
-necting links & the
salt stations, though
only a few miles
in length, are as Mr
Clarke shows, still to
be made.

VIII Plat forms and places of manufacture to be established. Mr

Clarke that the fol-
lowing 10 places be
established - a sale
depot being substituted
in lieu of the second
at a place called Katta
palli.

Pude.
Jehu Kaka
Mattám
Tupili
Kottakotam
Muttukoor
Jawaladinnai
Binjamapalli.
Allur
Devarampake.

The rations now are
much the same as
those assigned for
the same coast in
Madras. There will
still be places of
manufacture & sale
at short distances
along the coast - and
the abolition of the atte
will prove economical.

10 and admit of more
effective supervision.
It will be necessary
for the Collr. to take
care that the manu-
facture does not p
on surreptitious Qr.
+ Compensation has
been given for knowledge
Local prices in Nellore -
but for capital sunk
in the Rent & stores
Cost to the owner, it
is fairly so. Where-
ever a place is closed
merely for the conve-
-nience of post and there
has been no stipula-
-tion against the pant.
Mr Clarke proposes
the reduction to 4 more
of the sale platforms
of which they are too
many in the district
involving extra ex-
pence in four Rings, Chairs

(but this will be involved
in complete & immediate
or partial or total the
cessation of the abolition.

These recommendations
seem judicious & desirable.
The transfer of the Inspectorate
from to a more convenient
site might also be effected at once - and
the construction of the
Canals recommended
in paras 138 & 151 considered
by the D.P.W.

IX Earth Salt. The Dy
Collr believes that
much Earth Salt
is brought into the Dis-
trict from Cuddapah
Bellary & Kurnool. It
is taxed in Bellary
under the Notification
& the hire also in parts
of old Kurnool, but
not in Cuddapah. Sa-
Manufacture in these
three districts is known
& permitted. Mr Blowfield
recommended that
the Manufacture should
be excited with the

same duty as Marine
salt - so that the right
competition on even terms
in the market - and
first realise as much
duty from the one as
the other - This
undoubtedly is the cor-
rect principle - the diffi-
culty is in applying
it without the ruinous
establishments which
would eat up the revenue
derived and practice
frauds of every kind.
Earth salt is made
surreptitiously in every
District - more of course
in the inland, and in
spite of every care it
will be made so long
as the people are poor
and Marine salt
dear - but there is no
reason why the people
of the ceded districts
should alone legally
enjoy the privilege - The

But might be desired
to put on it. News
that the Markets fee
is about to be abolished.
Mr Kelly is conversant
with the subject, which
indeed has been re-
peatedly before Govt.

The rest of the Report
paras 192 & 198.) refer
to the Chinna ganjam
Store in the Kistna District
Mr Clarke recom-
mends that this Store
should not be trans-
ferred to Nellore - The
works are very exten-
sive and the depôt
is at the extreme North
of that District, so that
the Nellore Deptt could
not conveniently do
perform it - while
the Kistna Deptt can
can do so and if relieved
of this charge would
have little to do - This

argument seems valid.
and the transfer ap-
pears undesirable - but
if the Nellore Deptt
Cdr has as much as
he can do, in superinten-
ding the Roads in his 60
miles of coast - indeed
it is a question whether
some of the Northern Nellore
Roads might not with
advantage be placed
in charge of the Kistna
Deptt Cdr.

II. The arrangements
at Chinna ganjam
are good - but the Telt
of the River current seems
to vary in Season - Mr
Clarke recommends
that the Ex Port of Telt
from this place to
by Sea - be given up -
the good Port of Injaram
Retaining being close
at hand - He also
suggests alterations
in the platforms &
all which seem

desirable.

III. The stowage at this Depot is also by the heated & pressed measure, and the consequence is that purchasers are attracted to it from other Ports for the sake of their duty and the waste accounts are nevertheless. The practice should be stopped & if preserved should lead to the removal of the principal Servants.

IV. The Supt of these Ports exercises Magisterial powers & the consequence is that much of his time is taken up with this kind of duty. I am not aware under what circumstances these powers were given but it is a questionable

38. as this depot also has a [illegible] salt is stowed

If it be proper that at the other ports of this [illegible] is to be prevented from [illegible] the Officer should be [illegible] specially called [illegible]

Vide 193

& his further duty as to this Port is neglected.

[illegible] to [illegible] and [illegible]

[illegible] I am a very [illegible]

duty - must, if not all his cases must be connected with his own Dept and he cannot be an unbiassed judge. Moreover his own legitimate duties seem ample.

V. The salt should be paid for monthly as practised by Mr Clarke

VI. There seems no reason why the Chinese Junks should not be under the immediate control of the Depot - It was intended when Depots were established & the Dept that it should be under their charge subject to the Collectors general authority. There is the less reason for a different course in this District as the Depot has not the large number of Junks which are found elsewhere - & the Dist Collr

Supt = occupy him - must be able immediately to [illegible] the extraneous duty -

2 - If it be the practice of or at many other Ports [illegible] to pay for [illegible] salt into the Treasury [illegible] to the account [illegible] - this is unfortunate. 193

The number; the salt should be paid for monthly as [illegible] Clarke [illegible] the whole returned -

41 - to some means not apparent, the Supt of the Chinese Junks [illegible] is indebted of the Dist Collr in charge of the Salt & accounts [illegible] with the Collr [illegible] This is unfortunate & is opposite the intentions of

12 27

VII Mr Clarke speaks well of the Supdt. of Ganjam [above: Chicacole] who only ~~[illegible]~~ joined recently & consequently is not fully conversant with the details of his work & the system of accounts. With Mr De Conceiçao, the Depty Collr. of the Kistna District, he was much pleased —

Mr Clarke also gives a high character [above: for integrity, efficiency & zeal] of C. Narrain Swami Mr. the Nellore Depy Collr, ~~and~~ likes [will] that he may be rewarded for his services —

Mr Clarke also acknowledges the assistance & valuable information he obtained from Mr Dykes.

There are some

Supt. to [illegible] in the same position of contrast over this station as others — Mr Clarke was much pleased with it

42 Mr Clarke was much pleased

describes him as zealous & indefatigable in his duties ~~[illegible]~~ thoroughly acquainted with the details of his work & anxious to do it conscientiously & honestly. This quite agrees with the testimony borne to these officers qualifications before his appt. to the present work —

He also sums a very [illegible]

whom he selected as his special assistant for the larger [illegible] of inquiry [illegible] the [illegible]

He also speaks well of Mr Nailer Supdt. of Chicacole Ganjam, who [illegible]

fully acquainted with his duties —

43 There is one point

that a very practicable [illegible] the [illegible] of the [illegible]; but still with some [illegible] the usual average [illegible] might be pretty [illegible] ascertained. This is important in [illegible] the [illegible], as well as [illegible] their [illegible] & [illegible] to produce [illegible] which [illegible] with a

minor points in the report which Mr Clarke might carry out in conjunction with his colleagues in the Board.

~~One point~~ which materially affects the manufacture is not noticed — viz the frequent closing of pans for a season owing to the manufacture of the previous year being too large — It is of course difficult to hit off the requirements exactly but more care should be taken in this respect. People will not invest capital in their pans if the manufacture is liable to be thus checked.

44 Mr Clarke's report enters so fully into detail and shows how much the

Dept might be im-
proved by means
of the Commander
of every Cutter that
it would be well to
Circulate it - With
slight Variations, much
the same State of
affairs will be found
to prevail in other
Districts.

It is a pity that
that the largest & deepest
of all - Sutton in 2
Inches of the Test -
Should have escaped
Examination - Mr.
Clarke might be
directed perhaps
to pass it, as soon
as he conveniently
can -

Mr Clarke has
had no opportu-
nity of visiting any

of the Customs Officers
in the North - & his
Report is therefore
limited to the Hull
Dept.

S. D. L.

R. D.

Mem.o on
Mr. Clarke's
Salt Report

Mr 2101 Mr 2101.

Proceedings of the Madras Government
Under date the 1st ~~October~~ November 1861.

Read again letter from
F. Clarke Esqre Member of the Bd
of Revenue dated 25th October & recorded
in G.O. 2d December 1860 No 2476.

P.1 In this letter Mr
Clarke gives the results of
his inspection of the Salt
works of Nellore and of part
of those of Madras and the
Kistna District. The report
refers here to ~~to the maps~~
into detail, but it is ~~to be~~
~~a valuable paper and~~
contains much useful
information and many
valuable suggestions.

The

^ Plan is necessary

The Government will briefly notice those parts which require their orders.

2 Mr. Clarke begins with the extending works at and near Ennore, which supply the Madras Depôt. His notice of these works extends from para 2 to para 15 of the Report. Paras 2 to 22 are occupied with an account of the Pans & of the mode of manufacture. No orders are required here; except to call the Collector's attention to the remark as to the careless mode of manufacture practiced at many of the pans, and the consequent to inferiority of the salt. It is stated (Para 20) that the salt made at these pans is generally

of

Paras 11, 16-17-19.

of fair quality; and appears all that is necessary to ensure that the whole shall be good, is a punctual observance of the order so frequently repeated for the rigid rejection of inferior salt, with care to induce the manufacturers to commence operations at the right season, and to follow a good method.

3 Paras 23 to 27 relate to the means taken to guard the salt after it is gathered, up to the time when it is transported to the store at Madras; and paras 28 to 37 relate chiefly to the means employed for transporting it thither

thither -

4. — As to the former it is evident that but little real check is exercised; and that, as Mr. Clarke says (Para 25) if smuggling does not prevail, its absence is not owing to any efficient means of prevention; but he evidently thinks that it does prevail extensively - The says (Para 27) that he would have suggested some improvement in the organization of the preventive guards, but that it has been resolved to commit the duty of prevention to the Police - The Collector of those Districts in which this duty has already been transferred to the Police will be called upon

upon to report on the success of the measure if it has had a fair trial -

5. — The means of transporting the salt to the Platforms are very defective; and the consequence is great delay with various consequent evils - The salt is left for months exposed at the Pans, liable to damage by rain, as well as to theft. When Mr. Clarke visited the works 5½ lacks of maunds of salt were lying along the banks of the Canal, (Para 25) and the whole of the salt is rarely conveyed to the Platforms till December ~~or later~~ (P 28) a part thus lying out thro' the monsoon - The manufacturers

manufacturers are paid for only so much of their salt as reaches the Platforms; consequently this delay inflicts heavy loss on them; while it can easily be made a source of illicit gain by the salt department Servants. Again the salt boats are uncovered, and excessive carelessness is practised by the peons nominally in charge of each boat load. The deficiency of the salt received into store, compared with the estimated quantity gathered at the pans, is given by Mr. Clarke (Para 35) at from 8 to 11 per cent. And this is probably below the truth, for the Nowisindah (Para 23) can easily underestimate the quantity gathered

Para 36.

gathered.

6. All this requires careful correction. The Collector's attention should be specially drawn to the subject, and with a Deputy Collector in charge of the Salt Department of the District, the remedy of the existing abuses ought not to be difficult.

7. Another serious evil is that the salt boats employed are evidently insufficient in number (P 28). It is mentioned also (P 32) that at times the passage of the salt boats is impeded by want of water in the Canal. The attention of the Engineer of

of the canal should
be drawn to this
circumstance; but
it may be remarked also
that a foot of depth might
easily be gained by
substituting flat bot-
=tomed boats without
Keels, for those now in
use.

8.— The expedient
suggested in P. 31 of
constructing landing
places at the Platforms
to facilitate the land-
=ing of the salt, should
also be attended to;
Mr. Kennedy would
no doubt be able
to plan some efficient
landing place.

Mr.

9 Mr. Cunliffe's pro-
=posal noticed in the same
para, to have branch Rail-
=ways to the Canal & ditch,
with turn-tables and weigh
bridges, would no doubt
be of great use by lessening
the number of ~~people to be~~
~~required for~~ employed in conveying the
salt from the boats to the
Platform; this is an object
at all times, to prevent
pilfering and waste by
trampling, and in this
case particularly because
difficulty in obtaining
labour is stated (P. 31) to
have sometimes impeded
the storing of salt. These
paras of the report will be
communicated to the Con-
=sulting Engineer for
Railways.

10

10 Another injury to which the makers are subject is that the salt is under measured when received into store. The rule is that the mercal shall be struck, and that is the practice at Madras in selling; but in taking salt into store the mercal is heaped, not struck. This is obviously unfair; and it is a breach of positive orders. The Collector's defence of it (P. 38) is inadmissible. Greater care in the conveyance of the salt would prevent the loss which is made the plea for the proceeding. The salt should be received and sold by the same measurement, as far as that

that can be ensured, so long as measurement is in use; and if found really necessary, the allowance of 5 per cent to wholesale buyers might be increased.

11 Mr. Clarke mentions that the manufacturers ask for an increase in the price paid them for the salt, which is 10 Rs a garce. It is evident that the causes noticed in the foregoing paragraphs (3 to 8) operate practically to lower materially the price received by the manufacturers for a given quantity of salt made. If those causes are removed so that the whole or nearly the whole of the salt made shall reach the Platform and

12

and be paid for; and if, further, the payment is made punctually and exactly and on fair measurement, the prudent price will virtually be ~~materially~~ increased, and the Govt ~~have no doubt that it will~~ be sufficient. Its nominal rate is high already in comparison with what is commonly paid elsewhere; and it is a well known fact that the Salt has a recognized value, and are readily transferred by sale or mortgage.

12 Paras 39 to 43 relate to the Establishment to be allowed for these works. Mr Clarke states his opinion that the Establishment proposed by Mr Pelly is too small. But

a small Establishment is a mistake

But this subject will come under consideration in reviewing Mr Pelly's revised scheme of Establishment for the Salt Dept.

13 The suggestion that during the manufacturing season the Deputy Peshkar should live on the spot and superintend the operations, appears judicious.

14 In para 44 Mr Clarke notices the very large proportion of sales by wholesale at the Madras Platform; ~~the Madras Platform~~ i.e. by entire heaps of twenty garce each, without measurement. In 1859 the wholesale transactions were more than five sixths of the whole. He suggests that Govt might properly withdraw entirely from the retail sale. It is very desirable no doubt that the sales should be in bulk only; but it would not be prudent or safe to refuse to sell otherwise than by heaps.

Clarke

It is necessary that the dealer should have the option of buying by measure, as a protection both from the contingency hinted at in P. 38, of the deduction not covering the waste, & also against fraudulent measurement in storing. If small sales are forbidden the Coll= ~~would~~ will have no means of testing the accuracy of the storage.

15 For reasons stated in Para 45 Mr= Clarke did not visit the Platforms at Madras & ex= =amine the mode of conducting ope= =rations there. This is to be regretted; the remarks & suggestions which he has made on other Platforms show the value of such inde= =pendent and intelligent in= =spection. The Madras Plat= =forms are by far the largest throughout the whole Presi= =dency: and as they are close at hand, the Govt= request that Mr= Clarke will take an early opportunity of in= =specting and reporting on them.

Paras 46 to 64

By surcharge

Appumelroy
Pungolum
Orasanumdrum
Chunnumbuttolam-

16 Paras 46 to 64 treat of the salt works at the four villages named in the Margin. Those villages are situated near together on the Southern border of the Pulicat-lake, from which they draw their water for the Manufac= =ture; they belonged to the late District of Chingle= =put: According to the description given by Mr Clarke, these salt works and the practices pre= =vailing there are very bad. Careless manu= =facture and consequently an inferior salt, the stores unguarded, the servants inefficient and corrupt, dealers attracted by clii= =cit and fraudulent ad= =vantages, extensive smug= =gling. Such is a summary of

of what Mr Clarke
found at all these
places. They are in an
out of the way corner
of the District, there
are no roads to them,
and the sales of salt
are insignificant.

17 On all these
considerations the
Collector recommended
that the whole should
be abolished, and Mr
Clarke was at first
of the same opinion.
On the whole, however,
he recommends, for
reasons stated in
Para 62, that one Platform
and set of Pans should
be continued, and for
this purpose he selects
the second Platform
of Obavanandram. He
proposes

proposes that it should
be transferred to the
Nellore District
and be put under the
Superintendent of Tada
eleven miles distant.
He recommends also
that a good road
should be made from
the Platform to the
Northern road on one
side, and to Pulicat
on the other, a total
distance of about twenty
miles.

18 The Government
concur with Mr Colly
and the necessary ar-
-rangements will ac-
-cordingly be made.

The construction of
the roads proposed
will be reported to the
Chief Engineer.

19 In Para 65 Mr Clarke
notices

notices the delays allowed
to occur both in storing
the salt at the four vil-
-lages above referred to,
and also in settling the
makers accounts and
paying for the salt. Both
kinds of delay are unjust
to the makers, and may
be and probably are
made the means of
extortion -

20 Mr Clarke men-
-tions in Para by that
he learnt that the Dy.
Collector Mr. Smith
repeatedly visited the
villages and is very
active in correcting
abuses. This is well
but it is clear that at
the time of Mr. Clarke's
visit very many and
serious abuses remained.

Mr Clarke

I doubt this will

21 Mr Clarke then
goes on to the Nellore
District, which occupies
the greater part of the re-
-mainder of the Report viz
from Paras 68 to 191 -
The first part of this por-
-tion of the Report, viz from
Paras 68 to 121 is a general
review of the numbers and
distribution of the salt
works, their organization,
the mode of manufacture,
the management, viz. After
this general review, and
some remarks as to the
establishment required for
the works, Mr Clarke
goes over all the principal sta-
-tions in order. The general
review does not call for
lengthened comment, but
a few points present them-
-selves for remark, which
the Govt will notice in
order as they occur. —

22 Here also as at
Ennore, Mr Clarke notices
the careless mode of
manufacture

Paras 70, 88 & 89.

manufacture, which both
increases the quality of
the salt and lessens the
quantity. The Deputy
Collector Narrainsawmy
Mudali is however aware
of these defects (Para 90)
and is exerting himself
to correct them, he has al-
-ready introduced some
improvements, both in the
administration (Para 91)
and in the manufacture
itself Para 96.

23 Similarly in Nellore
as at Cuncre the precau-
-tions taken to secure
the salt before storage
are defective, and loss Para 99
by weather and by
smuggling in the con-
-sequence. Here likewise
there is delay in storing
to the injury of the makers

(Para 104)

(Paras 104) and this with
the present existing
The power of rejecting inferior
salt, necessarily entrusted
to Kottar Superintendents,
is stated to be corruptly
abused in two ways; good
salt is rejected if the owner
will not fee the superintend-
-ent, and bad salt is ad-
-mitted if he does so, Pa-
-ra 105-

24. The salt is stated
to be received from the makers
by fair measurement, (Para 106)
which as above noted is
not the case at Madras.
All heaps examined by
Mr. Clarke, both of the pres-
-ent & of previous years,
were deficient, as they
ought to be because salt
always loses on measure-
-ment. The state of the mea-
-sure however varies re-
-gularly. Several examined by
Mr. Clarke were deficient
(Para 108), some of them
being

defective?
yes

been shattered and broken, but yet in use - All such however been since called in by the Collector (Para 109) & it is hoped that he has taken measures to supply new ones in their place -

25. Para 107 contains some just remarks on the subject of wastage, and on the real causes of large or small waste in the accounts. In the nature of things there must be some loss of bulk and even of weight by time, as well as by manipulation - but there is no doubt that this waste is made a plentiful source of cheating - Over measure is taken in, under the plea of covering waste, & the surplus goes to the profit of the Salt Servants - See paras 114 & 115

Mr. Clarke returns to the same subject - The waste in Balore on the average of the last 10 years has been about 7¼ per cent, but it has varied very greatly both in different years, and at the different Kotars. Mr. Clarke expresses the opinion that part of it may be fairly ascribed to weather, floods, deficient pans &c., but that much must be set down to possible fraud - He mentions one case in which a Kotar Superintendent, after a flood,

Sold

* remedy for these evils is well paid, trustworthy Agency & careful Supervision. -

P. 100 to 103 -

sold several heaps of salt for his own benefit, & returned them as washed away - The only *

26. With regard to the state of the Platforms, Mr. Clarke mentions that they are all well raised above floods, and the Sy. Collector has done much in the short time that he has been in charge to improve them by filling up, getting levelling & stamping the tops, & sloping & turfing the sides. But all the Platforms are without enclosures of any kind; & Mr. Clarke justly points out the necessity of such protection. The Collector will take early measures to carry this suggestion into effect - His attention is also directed to the necessity of improving the approaches to the Platforms. -

27. The salt heaps are well covered, (Para 113) but this appears to be the result of the Sy. Collector's own exertions ~~& is made a particular duty in the Sy. Manual of Instructions, adopted from those of Bengal, but not yet fully in force~~.

28. Mr. Clarke declares the Servants in the Salt Department in this District to be generally extremely inefficient. The particular attention of the Collector

P. 116 and 117. -

collector will be called to this circumstance - One cause of inefficiency is undoubtedly the insufficient pay of the Depart= =ment, which is also unpopular and bears a bad character - It is almost impossible to get good men to enter it if any other opening offers itself - and it is not surprising, for the upper Servants are much at the mercy of their subordinates - With a good Deputy Collector there will be a security for respectable men which they do not now possess - and good pay will attract Servants of better stamp - But the practice of transferring to the Salt Department, men who have failed in other departments or on whose character there is any slur is fa= =tal, and must be peremptorily forbidden -

The recent order of Govt. vesting Deputy Collectors in charge of the Salt with the appoint= =ment & punishment of all their subordinates, under the grade of Superintendents will also tend to the employment of proper persons, as the Duty Collectors will be held strictly an= =swerable for the proper conduct of business & have a personal in= =terest in the efficiency of the duty

29 The remarks in Paras 122 to 126 & elsewhere, on the Establishments proposed by Mr. Pelly, will be considered in passing an order on that gentleman's Report. But it may be remarked here that they refer to Mr. Pelly's original and tentative scheme; his re= =vised scheme agrees more nearly with what Mr. Clarke recommends

30 In paras 127 to 181 Mr. Clarke goes in order over the six Salt Divisions ex= =plaining the changes which he recommends in each, and the reasons for them. These changes consist chiefly in the abolition of a number of Pans and Platforms, and the greater concentration of the manufacture. There are now 52 Platforms, viz. 41 for the home and inland trade and 11 for export; this number Mr. Clarke proposes

proposes to reduce to 20; viz. 14 for the home trade and 6 for export. The recommendations respecting each Division are as follows.

31 The first Division is that of Soda. This Division now contains four villages with one or more Platforms each; it is proposed to abolish two, Viz. Pudi and Velukadu (the latter on an island in the Pulicat lake) and the reasons seem fully sufficient. Mr. Clarke was disposed to abolish a third village, Ramapuram; but he yields to the wishes of the local Officers.

Bara 128

32 In lieu of the works on the island of Velukadu it is proposed to establish a Kottar at Kattupalli on the border of the lake, for the sake of collecting, storing and selling the spontaneous salt produced thereabouts. This seems judicious; the new Kottar is to be attached to the Division of Durgarazapatam, which place is only twelve miles distant

Bara 128

33 It is also proposed that one of the three Platforms at Soda should be given up and the Pans concentrated about the remaining two.

34 The next Division is that of Durgarazpatam. This also now contains four salt

Clarke

salt villages, of which Mr. Clarke proposes to abolish three, mainly for smuggling but also because the legitimate sales are extremely small & the depots are therefore not required. In place of these Kattupalli, as already noticed, is proposed to be added to this Division.

35 Improvement is required to make the Platform at Durgarayapatam more accessible. The Collector in communication with the District Engineer should report as to which of the two plans for that object noticed by Mr. Clarke should be preferred.

36 The third Division is Kistnapatam. It is proposed to abolish the small salt works at Mutukur

37 Improvements in the approaches are suggested in paras 143 & 144 which should receive the Collector's early attention notice

38 At Gengapatam a detached station of this Division, the business does not seem to be well conducted, & the attention of the Deputy Collector it requested should be drawn to it.

39 The attention of the Collr & of the Board will also be called to the expediency of providing scales for the Salt Treasuries. Some

× Mallam
Supili
Kottapatnam

Para 133

Para 142

40 Some years ago the Government resolved to permit the manufacture of Earth salt in the Ceded Districts, on account of their distance from the coast. It appears from Para 150 of this Report that Earth salt is actually brought into the Nellore District, and competes even there with Sea Salt. From this instance there seems no doubt that the Revenue must largely suffer from this manufacture. This salt is found in Bellary under the Melturpa and also in parts of Kurnool, but not in Cuddapah. Its manufacture in these three Districts is suspended and prohibited. Mr. Bowden recommended that the manufacture should be Excised with the same duty as Marine Salt so that both might compete on even terms in the market and Government realize as much duty from the one as the other. This undoubtedly is the correct principle, the difficulty is in applying

Revised rule to be seen Redelected

Clarke

applying it without keeping
up establishments which would
eat up the revenue derived and
practice frauds of every kind.
Earth Salt is made surrepti-
tiously in every District more
of course in the inland. But
there is no reason why the people
of the Ceded Districts, should
alone legally enjoy this privilege.
The Board will be desired to
report on it now that the Mok-
turfa is abolished, it is necessary
that the subject be carefully
considered.

41. The fourth Division
is that of Eskapilly containing
several Kottars, though the larg-
-est by far is that at Eska-
pilly itself. The Division
contains numerous Plat-
forms both for the inland trade
and for export—

42. Mr Clarke recom-
mends for reasons stated that
the export Depôts at Gogalapally
(Para 159) consisting of two
Platforms, should be abolished,
and one of the two inland Platforms

Paras 151 to 167.

Para 157 and 159; also that the
Kottar at Juvaladinnai be
closed (Para 165); as well as
the export Depôt at Summa-
-capentah; the works there on
the South of the river, to being
also
closed. (Para 167) These recom-
-mendations seem all to be
judicious; some other impro-
-vements are recommended in
connection with this Division,
which should receive the
Collectors attention—

43. The fifth Division
contains only two Stations,
those of Binganapalli and
Pakala at both there are export
Depôts formed a few years ago
but the export has been extreme
-ly small. It is recom-
-mended that both Depôts
should be abolished; also that
the whole Station of Bing-a-
-napalli should be given up
~~for reasons stated~~ (Para 169)
and also some Pans in Pakala-

44. The sixth Division
contains four Salt Stations—
The Report made of this Di-
vision is bad— The salt is
inferior

Mr Clarke

Paras 171 to 181.

inferior, owing in great part to the dust blown on the Pans from the adjoining black cotton ground, and the servants are badly spoken of. The Northern Station of Kamparti however is an exception in both respects. It is recommended that the Stations at Allur and Devarampadu should be entirely closed; and that of the four Platforms at each of the remaining Stations, one at each should be abolished.

45. Para 179 contains some judicious remarks as to the alleged necessity of maintaining Kottars at short distances from each other. The argument drawn from the state of things at Chinnagunjam seems to show clearly that such frequent Kottars are not necessary for the public convenience, while it is certain that such scattered works greatly

each case must be decided on its own merits and the interests of the people considered no less than those of the Post-

greatly increase the facilities to fraud. No general rule can however be laid down ×

46. The recommendations for the abolition of Pans and Platforms are concurred in by the Collector; with 2 exceptions viz Tupilipalem in the Durgaraz patam and Divarampadu in the Paduty division. The Government do not object to these being retained for the present. As regards the others, Mr. Clarke's proposals are sanctioned. Compensation has never been given in Nellore, but for capital sunk in the pans and thus lost to the owners, it is fairly due - whenever a pan is closed merely for the convenience of Government and there has been no stipulation against the grant; but this right of course ^ in cases when smuggling and misconduct are mainly wholly the cause of the abolition, and also when the demand for salt has fallen

off

off materially from change
in the course of trade

47. The rest of the re=
=port (paras 192 to 198) relates
to the Chinnaganjam Store
in the Kistna District.
Replying to an order
which referred the question
to him, Mr. Clarke re=
=commends that these works
should not be transferred
to Nellore. They are very
extensive and the Nellore
Deputy Collector has
already a coast line
of 150 miles to attend to.
He could not therefore duly
~~therefore~~ supervise this
Station, while the Kistna
Deputy Collector can
do so, and if relieved of
this charge would have
little

Kistna District

Para 193

Para 195

little to do. This argument
seems valid and the trans=
=fer appears undesirable.
The Nellore Deputy Collector
has as much as he can
do, in superintending the
pans in his 150 miles of
coast; and it is even a
question whether some of
the Northern Nellore pans
might not with advant=
=age be placed in charge
of the Kistna Deputy
Collector.—

48.— The arrangements
at Chinnaganjam are stated
to be very good, but the
salt of the then current
year was very inferior. A
subordinate of the D.S.P.
is specially charged with
the duty of doing promptly
such

such repairs as may be wanted; and Mr. Clarke was struck with the neatness and order observable. Mr. Clarke recommends that the export of salt by sea from this place should be given up - the good port of Nizampatam being close at hand. He also suggests alterations in the platforms &c. all of which seem desirable and are sanctioned. -

49. - At this Depôt also as at Madras the salt is stored by the heaped and pressed measure; and the consequence is that purchasers are attracted to it from other pans. The ~~Govt lose their~~ ~~duty~~ Duty. - and the Wastage accounts

? what does this mean

accounts are worthless. The practice must be stopped and if renewed should lead to the immediate removal of the principal servants. If it prevails also at the other pans of this District it must be peremptorily forbidden. The attention of the Deputy Collector should be specially called to the subject & he should be held answerable for the strict observance of the rules. -

50. - The superintendent of these pans is vested with magisterial powers - and the consequence is that much of his time is taken up with this kind of duty, & his proper duty at the pans is neglected. The Govt are not aware under what circumstances or what authority these powers were given, but it is a very objectionable arrangement. Most if

and report fully upon the matter to the Judge

It will be better to continue the original arrangement before endeavouring to alter it. There may be no use for it to exercise the general power in the neighbourhood. The

WM

Clarke

of not all his cases must be connected with his own Dept. and he cannot be an unbiased judge. Moreover his own legi=timate duties are amply sufficient to occupy him. He will be im=mediately relieved of the ex=traneous duty.

51.— It is the practice at this Kottar as at many others to pay for no salt till the whole quantity for the season has been stored. This is unfair to the makers; the salt should be paid for at least monthly as Mr. Clarke suggests and as the rules require.—

52.— For some reasons not apparent the Superintendent of the Chinnaganjam station is independent of the Deputy Coll.r in charge of the Salt, & cor=responds direct with the Coll.r This is improper & is quite opposed to the intentions of Gov.t; the Deputy Coll.r will now be placed in the same position of control over this station as over others.

53.— Mr. Clarke was much pleased with Mr. De Conceiocas, the late Deputy Collector of the Kistna District by whose death the Gov.t have lost a very valuable servant.

Para 198.

He also gives a very high character for integrity, efficiency, and zeal to Mr. Narrainswami Moodelly the Nellore Deputy Collector, who was selected by him as his special assistant for the longer tour of inspection. The Govt have already promoted Narrainswami Moodelly for his good services. Mr. Clarke also speaks well of Mr. Nailer Superintendent of Chinnaganjam who however having been only lately appointed was not then fully acquainted with his duties.

54.— There are points which materially affect the manufacture of salt, which is not noticed in this Report. The first is the occasional closing of pans for a season owing to the manufacture of the previous year having been too large. It is not always practicable to judge of the exact quantity required; but still with care the usual average requirements

Clark

requirements might be pretty well ascertained. This is important in justice to the makers, as well as to ensure their willing and hearty exertions to produce a good article. With a Deputy Collector in charge of the salt in each District, and able to give time to the object, material fluctuations in the ~~market~~ manufacture at each station and Pan ought to be avoided.

The other is the uniform price paid for salt whatever its quality. This removes all inducement to produce a superior article - for its production would only involve greater expense without any additional return. The manufacturer's aim is consequently to produce an article just good enough to be accepted. The objection to a differential price is the opening it affords to fraud but with the superior Agency which Govt contemplate employing this objection loses much of its force. Moreover the salt ~~w~~ servants

This looks well in theory but I question its practicability & the advisability of trying the experiment.

Ker

servants are now vested with power to reject salt of inferior quality. The minimum standard should be raised so as to secure a good merchantable quality of salt and the Board will consider ~~report~~ whether for salt of superior description a higher price may safely be offered: such a course as this approval of samples by the Deputy Collector may being introduced to guard against fraud.

55. — Mr Clarke's report enters so fully into detail and shows so strongly how much the Department might be improved by means at the command of every Collector, that it should be circulated by the Board to the Collectors. With slight variations much the same state of affairs will be found to prevail in other Districts.

56. The Govt cannot close these proceedings without recording their appreciation of the able and complete manner in which Mr Clarke

Clarke has performed
the duty assigned
to him.

J P S

Respecting certain
Salt Districts in the
Madras Presy.

14 Copies to the
Bd of Rev with 5 Copies
of Mr Clarke's Report
Cis 2 5
3 — Supt Railway & Ctg. with
2 do
13 — Chief Engr with 3 do
1 — Mr Clarke's
4 — " Mr Pelly with 1 do
1 Copy to Civil Paymaster
with Mr Clarke's Report
Desp 10 July 62

M