M.R.O. 14—10,000—21-4-22.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 1634 Press Mis.

Lec 8 Lec 9

Dated 31-7 1862.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

No. 418. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 8th July 1862, No. 4,390 :—

Read the following letters :—

From J. SILVER, Esq., Collector of Tinnevelly, to W. HUDLESTON, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, Madras, dated Kovilputty, 15th May 1862, No. 198.

SIR,

1. I have the honor to submit the following detailed report upon the Pearl Fishery lately held at Tuticorin, and to forward the accounts of receipts and charges connected with it.

Cruchian Par.
Cruchian Tondu Par.
Nagara Par.
Toolayeram Par.
Attonbadu Par, and
Vypaur Peria Par.

2. The six banks noted in the margin, off Tuticorin and Vypaur, were examined by Captain Phipps, Superintendent Pearl Banks, in the months of October and November 1861, preparatory to the Fishery of this year.

3. Although the first three banks were fished last year, yet they were re-examined in view to determine if any Oysters still remained on them, but only young Oysters with "Sooram" were found on the Cruchian, and Cruchian Tondu Par. The Nagara Par was blank, and some dead Oyster shells were found on it.

4. On examining the great Toolayeram Par, from which much was expected at this Fishery, the Oysters were found to have totally disappeared. The Vypaur Bank was partially fished last year, and it could not be completed, as the funds brought by the pearl merchants were exhausted ; consequently, and as Captain Phipps reported that this last bank and Attonbadu Par were well stocked with Oysters, and that it was time for them to be fished, it was resolved to limit the operations of the fishery for this year, to these two banks, and the Fishery was accordingly advertised to commence on or about the 1st March 1862.

5. One hundred boats were advertised to be sent out alternately for twenty days, divided into two fleets of 50 boats, but a larger number of boats having arrived from various ports, it was found necessary to increase the daily fleet gradually as the Fishery proceeded first to 75, and afterwards to 100 boats, to prevent disappointment and loss to parties who had come from great distances.

6. Attonbadu Par, which was expected to yield ten days' fishing, was first commenced to be fished on the 3rd March, but it afforded only five days' employment for the boats, the Oysters having been found only in patches, and a large portion of the Bank having been found blank. The prices at which the Government share of the Oysters were sold ranged from 31 to 43 Rupees per 1,000 Oysters. The amount realized from this Bank was Rupees 32,144-12-10.

7. On the 11th March the boats were sent to the Vypaur Bank, and it yielded only six days' fishing, a large number of dead shells having been found on it, and the result was, that although high prices were obtained at the auction sales, the boats were only able to bring in small loads as compared with those obtained in last year. The prices varied from Rupees 45 to 63 per 1,000 Oysters, and the amount realized was Rupees 33,133-3-2.

8. Many more boats and many more purchasers having attended the fishery this year, it was resolved to carry on operations by fishing one of the southern banks called Poothoo Par near Trichendoor, without moving the Kottoo and Establishment from Tuticorin, after consultation with the Superintendent of Pearl Banks and the Jódi Talaven, in order to prevent disappointment and loss to the Pearl merchants.

9. Accordingly the boats were sent out to this bank on the 21st March, but the fishery lasted only five days, as the Oysters were found to be fewer in quantity than was anticipated, and various difficulties existed in fishing this bank from Tuticorin. In the first place the distance was considerable, being nearly 30 miles, the depth of water on the bank was reported to be from 2 to 2½ fathoms deeper than on the northern banks, and large quantities of sea weed were found on it, which, added to the depth of water, made it difficult for the divers to bring up many Oysters, so that except on the first day, very small loads were obtained, and the boatmen, though at first anxious to fish this bank, soon got discouraged. On the two last occasions on which the boats attempted to reach the bank, only three or four succeeded in doing so, all the rest having been obliged to put back from the current and the southerly wind against them, so that at last they declared they would not attempt to go out again, and accordingly the Fishery was closed on the 28th March, and the Fishery flag pulled down. The prices at which the Government share of the Oysters were sold fluctuated from Rupees 22 to 35, and the amount realized from this bank was Rupees 21,600-9-7.

10. Captain Phipps, the Superintendent of Pearl Banks, proceeded with my sanction after the close of the Fishery to inspect the northern banks of the coast of Mudura, and discovered on the Vypaur Bank a large patch of Oysters that had been examined in November last, but overlooked through negligence on the part of the Parmandadies, and as many dead shells were found among them, he immediately put back to Tuticorin, and reported to me the necessity of

this patch being immediately fished. I gave orders for collecting the Establishment that had been broken up and dispersed, and adopted all means to make this discovery known to Boat-owners and Pearl Merchants.

11. As soon as this was known on the coast, more than 120 boats entered at the station, and the Fishery was re-commenced on the 11th and closed on the 16th April. The patch yielded only five days' fishing, a great number of dead shells covered with sea weed having been found on it. In fishing this bank, the Parmandadies were not allowed their privilege Oysters, and the Jódi Talaven was not allowed his two Manieni boats, as the Board have learnt from my report of the 7th April 1862, No. 135, detailing the neglect of these parties. The prices obtained at the auction sales ranged from 64 to 99 Rupees per 1,000 Oysters. The total amount realized from the fishery of this bank, was Rupees 41,850-10-5.

12. On the whole there were twenty-one days' fishing. The sale of the Government share of the Oysters was conducted by public auction in the presence of my Head Assistant and the Superintendent of Pearl Banks.

13. The total number of Oysters sold on account of Government was 2,83,000, which realized a sum of Rupees 1,28,769-4-0. The prices fluctuated from Rupees 30 to 50 per 1,000. Of this sum, Rupees 54,920-4-0 were paid in cash, and the remainder, or Rupees 73,849, by bills drawn on me by the Collectors of Madura, Tanjore, and Trichinopoly, and by the Mercantile Banks at Madras and Ceylon. To this, if the proceeds of the Oysters,

Oysters.	Rs.	A.	P.
14,90,450	64,384	10	0
76,776	2,766	0	0

one-third share* and those of the two Manieni Boats allowed to Jódi Talaven in remuneration of his services, calculated according to the rates at which the Government Oysters were sold, be added, the total out-turn amounts to Rupees 1,95,920.

14. I believe all purchasers of Oysters on a large scale realized handsome profits.

	Rs.	A.	P.
Oysters.....	1,28,769	4	0
Chanks	40	0	0
Pearls	143	0	0
Sweepings.....	30	0	0
Fines.....	20	8	0
Total ..	1,29,002	12	0

15. The total receipts from the fishery amounted to Rupees 1,29,002-12-0 including fines, &c. From this, deducting the charges of Rupees 18,283-15-8, as per accompanying Account Current, the net profit to Government stands at Rupees 1,10,618-12-4.

16. The amount sanctioned in the Budget of this District for 1861-62 on account of the expenses in connection with the Pearl Fishery of this year, amounts to Rupees 16,640; deducting therefrom Rupees 18,383-15-8, being the charges above referred to, there remains a saving of Rupees 256-0-4.

17. It is gratifying to me to be able to state that, though about twenty thousand persons were assembled, there was no epidemic at the Fishery station from the beginning to the end of the fishery. One case only proved fatal before the Fishery was actually commenced, and this was not reported at the station Hospital until recovery was hopeless.

Of the medicines supplied for the Pearl Fishery only a small quantity was spent, and the remainder was forwarded to my Hoozoor Kacheri.

Order was completely preserved, and the Fishery conducted without the slightest disturbance.

18. The mode of conducting this Fishery has been similar in every respect to the previous one, and I have every reason to believe that all parties who attended have been fully satisfied with the arrangements made, and the treatment they have received.

19. The detachment of the 17th Regiment at Palamcottah, and the detachment of the new Police Force, which were sent to preserve order at the Pearl Fishery, behaved exceedingly well.

20. My former reports made to the Board from time to time, will have shown, that I was in constant and regular correspondence with Captain Phipps on all matters of detail connected with the Fishery, and every thing was carried on with my knowledge and concurrence. I look forward to a large, and I trust successful, Fishery at Trichendoor next year.

21. I beg to bring to the special notice of the Board and Government, the good services rendered by my Head Assistant, Mr. Garstin, and the Superintendent of Pearl Banks, Captain Phipps, in conducting the details of the Fishery. I was present at Tuticorin myself, but my interference was not required in any one single instance. Mr. Garstin resided during the whole period of the Fishery at the Kottoo, and the care and diligence with which he discharged much extra work, as well as his steady judgment, merit great praise. As the Government have decided that the Collector and his Head Assistant are not now to be remunerated for the extra work of the Pearl Fishery by a per centage on the profits, as was formerly done, I trust the good service rendered by Mr. Garstin will tend to his advancement.

22. Captain Phipps has never relaxed in the zeal and diligence he has all along shown. As Superintendent of Pearl Banks, he has much extra and hard work to perform. The discovery of the patch of Oysters on the Vypaur Bank, which at first had been overlooked, was entirely owing to him, and this discovery resulted in Government realizing a sum of more than

Rupees 41,000, which otherwise would have been totally lost. I beg therefore earnestly to recommend through the Board to Government, that Captain Phipps be presented with the sum of Rupees 1,000 for the good services rendered by him at this last Fishery.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

ABSTRACT.—Account particulars of charges incurred on account of the Establishment of the Pearl Fishery, which took place at Tuticorin in the District of Tinnevelly, as per sanction of Government, dated 8th January 1862.

ENCLOSURE No. 2.

ABSTRACT.—Account particulars of charges incurred on account of contingencies of the Pearl Fishery, which took place at Tuticorin in the District of Tinnevelly in the months of March and April 1862.

ENCLOSURE No. 3.

ABSTRACT.—Account particulars of charges for plastering pans and erecting the buildings of the Pearl Fishery under the sanction of the Board of Revenue, dated 4th January 1862.

ENCLOSURE No. 4.

ABSTRACT.—Account particulars of charges incurred in purchasing stores, &c., for the use of the Pearl Fishery at Tuticorin in the District of Tinnevelly for the months of March and April 1862, under the sanction of Government, dated 21st November 1861, No. 2,198.

ENCLOSURE No. 5.

ABSTRACT.—Account particulars of charges incurred in purchasing stores for guard vessels at Tuticorin under the sanction of Government, dated 3rd August 1861, No. 1,547.

ENCLOSURE No. 6.

ABSTRACT.—Account particulars of charges incurred in examining the Pearl Banks on the coast of Tinnevelly, as per sanction of Government, dated 22nd August 1861, No. 1,686.

ENCLOSURE No. 7.

ABSTRACT.—Account particulars of charges incurred in altering and re-fitting the accommodation of the guard Schooner "Emily" at Tuticorin under the sanction of Government, dated 3rd August 1861, No. 1,547.

ENCLOSURE No. 8.

ABSTRACT.—Account particulars of charges incurred in purchasing articles required for repairing the diving apparatus to the Pearl Fishery at Tuticorin, under the sanction of Government, dated 14th June 1861, No. 1,201.

ENCLOSURE No. 9.

ABSTRACT.—Account particulars of charges incurred on account of the Pay of the Establishment of the guard Schooners "Emily," "Edith," and "Pearl" entertained under the sanction of Government, dated 17th March 1860, No. 405, 20th September 1860, No. 1,662, and 8th March 1861, No. 541.

ENCLOSURE No. 10.

ABSTRACT.—Statement of receipts and disbursements on account of the Pearl Fishery, which took place at Tuticorin in the District of Tinnevelly in the months of March and April 1862.

ENCLOSURE No. 11.

ABSTRACT.—Account particulars of charges incurred on account of provisions for the crew of the Schooners "Emily," "Edith," and "Pearl," and contingent charges under the sanction of Government, dated 17th March 1860, No. 405, and 8th March 1861, No. 541.

ENCLOSURE No. 12.

ABSTRACT.—Account particulars of charges incurred in taking down the Pearl Fishery buildings at Tuticorin, under the sanction of the Board of Revenue, dated 11th June 1861, No. 3,024.

From J. SILVER, Esq., Collector of Tinnevelly, to W. HUDLESTON, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, Madras, dated Strivilliputtur, 28th May 1862, No. 208.

SIR,

I have the honor to request that the sum of Rupees 2,000 granted to Captain Phipps, the Superintendent of Pearl Banks, under the sanction of Government, may be entered in the Account Current forwarded with my Report, dated the 15th instant, No. 198, on the Pearl Fishery lately held at Tuticorin, the same having been inadvertently omitted to be entered in it.

1. Ordered to be submitted for the consideration and orders of Government.

2. According to previous arrangement it was resolved to limit the operations of the Fishery for the year 1862, to the two banks known as the Vypaur and Attonbadu Par, but in consequence of the large number of boats that volunteered for service and of merchants that attended, they were extended to one of the southern banks called Poothoo Par, and lasted twenty-one days, having commenced on the 3rd March, and after short interruptions finally ceased on the 16th April 1862.

3. The net profit to Government was Rupees 1,10,618-12-4, as appears from the following brief abstract of the Collector's accounts, which have been duly amended with reference to the gratuity of 2,000 Rupees to Captain Phipps referred to in the Collector's second communication above recorded.

Name of Bank.	1	Number of days fishing.	2	Number of Oysters obtained on account of Government.	3	Price for 1,000 Oysters sold on account of Government.	4	Total proceeds realized from Oysters.	5	Total proceeds realized from chanks, pearls, sweepings, and fines.	6	Total receipts from Fishery.	7	Total disbursements.	8	Net profit to Government.	9
						Rs.		Rs. A. P.		Rs. A. P.		Rs. A. P.		Rs. A. P.		Rs. A. P.	
1. Attonbadu Par		5		29,80,900		31 to 45		32,111 12 10		223		1,29,002 12		18,384 13		1,10,618 12 4	
2. Vypaur Par		6				45 to 64		33,153 3 2									
3. Poothoo Par		5				64 to 90		41,800 10 5									
Total		21		29,80,900		22 to 90		1,29,069 0 5		223		1,29,002 12		18,384 13		1,10,618 12 4	

4. The Collector states that, in addition to the number shown in column 3 of the foregoing abstract, 15,67,226 Oysters fell to the share of the divers, and the Jódi Talaven according to usual custom, and that valuing these at the rates at which the Government Oysters sold, the value of the total out-turn of the Fishery for the season may be computed at Rupees 1,95,920.

5. The manner in which the Fishery was conducted by Captain Phipps, seems to have been very satisfactory, and the Board support the Collector's recommendation that that Officer be presented with a gratuity of Rupees 1,000 for his services during this season.

6. The Board are glad to note the Collector's approval of the assistance afforded by Mr. Garstin, the Head Assistant Collector, in conducting the operations on shore.

7. The Collector's communication, dated 7th April 1862, and referred to in paragraph 11 of his earlier letter now submitted, was duly forwarded to Government with the Board's Proceedings, No. 2,486, dated 15th April 1862.

(True Copies and Extract.)

(Signed) C. G. MASTER, *Acting Sub-Secretary.*

No. 419. ORDER THEREON, 31st July 1862, No. 1,634.

1. With these Proceedings the Board of Revenue submit the report of the Collector of Tinnevelly on the results of the Pearl Fishery conducted this year.

2. The Fishery commenced on the 3rd March and after short interruptions finally closed on the 16th April 1862. It was conducted in the same manner as the Fishery of 1861. The number of Oysters obtained was 29,80,900, and their sale proceeds, at prices ranging from 22 to 90 for every thousand, amounted to Rupees 1,28,769. The chanks, pearls, sweepings, &c., realized Rupees 234, and the total receipts amounted to Rupees 1,29,003. The charges connected with the Fishery amounted to Rupees 18,384 or 14 per cent., and the net gain to Government was Rupees 1,10,619 exclusive of the value of the Oysters which fell to the share of the Divers and the Jódi Talaven according to custom.

3. The results of the Fishery are satisfactory, and on the recommendation of the Board of Revenue the Government sanction the payment of a gratuity of Rupees (1,000) one thousand to Captain Phipps as a token of their appreciation of his services.

4. The Governor in Council notices with pleasure the interest which both the Collector and his Head Assistant, Mr. Garstin, have always taken in the Fisheries.

(Signed) A. J. ARBUTHNOT,
Acting Chief Secretary.

Revenue Department

No. 1634

Proceedings of the Madras Government

Under date the 31st July 1862

Read the following

Proceedings of the Board of

Revenue.

Submitting for orders a letter from the Collector of Tinnevelly reporting upon the Pearl Fishery lately held at Tuticorin with the Board's remarks and their concurrence in support of the Collector's recommendation to present to Captain Cliffe, a gratuity of Rupees 1000 for his services.

(Have entered 8th July 1862 No. 4390)

With these Proceedings the Board of Revenue submit the report of the Collector of Tinnevelly on the results of the Pearl Fishery conducted this year.

2 The Fishery commenced on the 3rd March and after short interruptions finally closed on the 16th April 1862. It was conducted in the same manner as the Fishery of 1861. The number of Oysters to be licensed

was

was Rs. 29,80,900 and their sales
proceeds at prices ranging from
22690 for every Thousand amounted
Rs. 128769. The chanks, pearls,
dweepings &c realized Rs. 234
and the Salab receipts amounted
to Rs. 129003. The charges con-
nected with the Fishery amounted
to Rs. 18384 or 14 per cent and the
net gain to Government was
Rs. 110619 exclusive of the value
of the Oysters which fell to the
shares of the Divers and the
Jole Sulaam according to Cus-
tom.

3. The results of the Fishery
are satisfactory and ~~agreeably~~
to the recommendation of the
Board of Revenue the Gover-
nment have ordered the assign-
ment of a proportion of Station and
Emoluments to Captains Pitts &
Marshall of the Establishment.

of his services.

4 The ~~Governor in Council~~ notices
with pleasure the interest
which both the Collector and
his Head Assistant Mr Garstin
have always taken in the
Fisheries.

14 Copies To the Board of Revenue with 12 Enclosures Dated 1st Augt
3 —" Accountant General.
3 —" Civil Engineer.

Copy in [illegible] to England
D/ 23rd Sept. N. 66 of 1857

On the Pearl Fishery at
[illegible]

9 - 8 - 9
17 - 10 - 3
4 - 5 - 6

Revenue 1862 Dept.
Pro: of Govt. for July.

No. 1034.

Pro: of the Madras Govt.
D/ 31st July 1862.

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Passing orders on
Board's Proceedings
submitting Tinnevelly
Collector's report on
the results of the Pearl
Fishery conducted
this year.—

N. 418 & 419.

Pro. No.	71-72 / 3-5-62
"	221-222 / 21-11-61
"	313-314 / 22-8-61
"	39-40 / 3-8-61
"	150-151 / 14-6-61
"	150 & 152 / 8-3-61
"	359-360 / 20-9-60
"	79-80 / 17-3-60
"	278 & 281 / 30-1-62