M.R.O. 14—10,000—21-4-22.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue **DEPARTMENT.**

G.O. No. 1852 — Press / Mis.

430. 431

Dated 30 - 8 - 1862.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

No. 430. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 19th June 1862, No. 3,938:—

Read the following letter from G. L. MORRIS, Esq., Acting Collector of Tanjore, to W. HUDLESTON, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, Madras, dated Negapatam, 6th June 1862, No. 199.

SIR,

17th April 1862, No. 110. 27th May 1862, „ 168.

With reference to paragraph 7 of Mr. Ballard's letter of the 24th April last, No. 143, on the subject of the Vedaraniem Salt, I have the honor to forward herewith copy of the replies received from the Collector of Coimbatore.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

From E. B. THOMAS, Esq., Collector of Coimbatore, to G. A. BALLARD, Esq., Acting Collector of Tanjore, dated Ootacamund, 17th April 1862, No. 110.

SIR,

1. In direct reply to your letter, No. 158 of the 6th March, and with reference to your letter, No. 251 of the 4th instant, requesting information as to the probability of the introduction of a certain kind of salt into the market here, I have the honor to inform you that inquiry has been made in Coimbatore itself, and is now being made in the more distant Táluqs.

2. The inquiries made here led to contradictory opinions. From two quarters in favour of, from one in opposition to, the salt.

3. Extracts follow. "On minute inquiry I am given to understand that the salt is on the "whole excellent," and will in all probability take the precedence of the salt now in use from its manifest superiority. Another.—"The merchants and bazarmen approved of the salt; it is "purer, stronger, and heavier than the black salt now in use, which they are of opinion, will in "a short time be superseded by the white salt if introduced."

4. On the other hand, an European who is said to deal in salt says, "The people here "prefer the Ponnany Salt, saying that this salt is not so good and that would not sell, at this "station, for so much as the Western Coast Salt."

5. The salt having only been in hand a fortnight there has not yet been time for ascertaining the result of the inquiries in the out Táluqs. But it shall be communicated when received.

6. The inquiry thus far would lead to this only that this salt will probably supersede the inferior black salt; if introduced in sufficient quantity and at sufficiently low price, but will at most only run an equal chance with the strong black Western Coast Salt.

7. With reference to the question of the opening of the Madras Railway exercising an influence. It would probably influence the question considerably in favor of the Tanjore Salt were the rail at Trichinopoly connected with the Madras line.

8. At present the opening of the line will immensely facilitate the supply of Western Coast Salt, which will thus enter the market with great advantages, in competition, over the Tanjore salt.

9. The inquiry being yet incomplete, I am unable at present to give more than the above very qualified opinion in favor of Tanjore Salt.

10. Since writing the above I have received information from the Pollachy Táluq strictly confirmatory of the view above expressed. It is that the black salt from Ponnany sells at $8\frac{1}{2}$ Madras measures for the Rupee, while the Tanjore Salt will only sell for nine measures for the Rupee. The note concludes "certainly the black Salt with all its impurity is much stronger "than that sent, and consequently it differs in price."

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department, 30th August 1862.

ENCLOSURE No. 2.

From P. GRANT, Esq., Collector of Coimbatore, to G. L. MORRIS, Esq., Acting Collector of Tanjore, dated 27th May 1862, No. 168.

SIR,

1. With further reference to your letter, No. 158 of 6th March last, and in continuation of my predecessor's letter, No. 110 of the 17th April last, I have the honor to state that in the south-east Táluqs adjoining the Trichinopoly District, I find that the Salt, which is the subject of inquiry, will at least stand on an equal footing with that at present in use. The merchants state it to be better than their present Salt, but will not pledge themselves to a higher price.

2. On the whole I am of opinion that it must depend almost wholly on the facility of carriage, whether or not it supersedes the Salt in use. In the western half of the District, it will most probably *not* supersede the Salt now sold, under any circumstances, and at present will not even be able to compete with it.

3. In the south-eastern portion as being nearer the place of production, it will probably enter the market on equal terms with the present kinds.

(True Copy.)

(Signed) G. L. MORRIS, *Acting Collector.*

1. Ordered to be submitted for the information of Government, in continuation of the Board's Proceedings, dated 26th May 1862, No. 3,383.

2. The opinion expressed is quite as favorable to the Vedaraniem Spontaneous Salt as the Board expected. When the Great Southern of India Railway and the Madras Railway shall have been connected, the competition with the Bombay salt will be on fairer grounds, as Salt is brought down from Bombay to the western ports by vessels that would otherwise come in ballast, and the freight is thus a merely nominal charge.

(True Copies and Extract.)

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

No. 431. ORDER THEREON, 30th August 1862, No. 1,852.

The Government await the report called for from the Chief Engineer in their Proceedings of the 12th ultimo, No. 1,520.

(Signed) P. P. HUTCHINS,
Acting Deputy Secretary to Government.

No. 3,938.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE, dated 19th June 1862.

Read the following letter from G. L. MORRIS, Esq., Acting Collector of Tanjore, to W. HUDLESTON, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, Madras, dated Negapatam, 6th June 1862, No. 199:—

17th April 1862, No. 110.
27th May 1862, „ 168.

With reference to paragraph 7 of Mr. Ballard's letter of the 24th April last, No. 143, on the subject of the Vedaraniem Salt, I have the honor to forward herewith copy of the replies received from the Collector of Coimbatore.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

From E. B. THOMAS, Esq., Collector of Coimbatore, to G. A. BALLARD, Esq., Acting Collector of Tanjore, dated Ootacamund, 17th April 1862, No. 110.

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2. The inquiries made here led to contradictory opinions. From two quarters in favour of, from one in opposition to, the salt.

3. Extracts follow. "On minute inquiry I am given to understand that the salt is on the whole "excellent," and will in all probability take the precedence of the salt now in use from its manifest superiority. Another.—"The merchants and bazarmen approved of the salt; it is purer, stronger "and heavier than the black salt now in use, which they are of opinion, will in a short time be "superseded by the white salt if introduced."

4. On the other hand, an European who is said to deal in salt says, "The people here prefer "the Ponnany salt, saying that this salt is not so good and that would not sell, at this station, for so "much as the western coast salt."

5. The salt having only been in hand a fortnight there has not yet been time for ascertaining the result of the inquiries in the out Taluks. But it shall be communicated when received.

6. The inquiry thus far would lead to this only that this salt will probably supersede the inferior black salt; if introduced in sufficient quantity and at sufficiently low price, but will at most only run an equal chance with the strong black western coast salt.

7. With reference to the question of the opening of the Madras Railway exercising an influence. It would probably influence the question considerably in favor of the Tanjore salt were the rail at Trichinopoly connected with the Madras line.

8. At present the opening of the line will immensely facilitate the supply of western coast salt, which will thus enter the market with great advantages, in competition, over the Tanjore salt.

9. The inquiry being yet incomplete, I am unable at present to give more than the above very qualified opinion in favor of Tanjore salt.

10. Since writing the above I have received information from the Pollachy Taluk strictly confirmatory of the view above expressed. It is that the black salt from Ponnany sells at 8½ Madras measures for the Rupee, while the Tanjore Salt will only sell for nine measures for the Rupee. The note concludes "certainly the black Salt with all its impurity is much stronger than that "sent, and consequently it differs in price."

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From P. GRANT, Esq., Collector of Coimbatore, to G. L. MORRIS, Esq., Acting Collector of Tanjore, dated 27th May 1862, No. 168.

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will at least stand on an equal footing with that at present in use. The merchants state it to be better than their present salt, but will not pledge themselves to a higher price.

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(True Copy.)

(Signed) G. L. MORRIS, Acting Collector.

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1. Ordered to be submitted for the information of Government, in continuation of the Board's Proceedings, dated 26th May 1862, No. 3,383.

2. The opinion expressed is quite as favourable to the Vedarniem spontaneous salt as the Board expected. When the Great Southern of India Railway and the Madras Railway shall have been connected, the competition with the Bombay salt will be on fairer grounds, as salt is brought down from Bombay to the western ports by vessels that would otherwise come in ballast, and the freight is thus a merely nominal charge.

(True Copies and Extract.)

Acting Sub-Secretary.

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

Copy to G. L. Morris, Esq., Acting Collector of Tanjore.

Exd. J. Wright.

Rec'd 1862. Department.
No. 1782.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE.

Dated 19th *June* 1862.
Despatched. 20 *do.*
Received. 21 *do.*

No. 3938.

Submitting for information a letter from the Acting Collector of Tanjore, on the subject of Vedarniem Spontaneous Salt, with the Board's remarks thereon.