M.R.O. 14—10,000—21-4-22

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue **DEPARTMENT.**

G.O. No. 29	Press ~~Mis.~~
52-56	
Dated 8-1-	1862

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department, 8th January 1862.

Read the following papers from the Board of Revenue :—

No. 54. Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 5th December 1861, No. 6,768.

Read the following letter from J. SILVER, Esq., Collector of Tinnevelly, to W. HUDLESTON, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, Chepauk, dated Panagudy, 23rd November 1861, No. 506.

SIR,

I have the honor to submit for the approval and sanction of the Board and Government, a list of the temporary Establishment required to be entertained during the contemplated Pearl Fishery at Tuticorin in March 1862, and request the early sanction of Government for the same, the Establishment to be employed from the 25th February to the 20th March, or as long as the Fishery lasts.

1. Ordered to be submitted for the early sanction of Government.

	RS.
Former Estimate	2,759
Superintendent's pay disallowed by Government	600
Amount sanctioned	2,159
Present Estimate	2,764
	605

2. A sum of Rupees 10,000 has been provided in the Collector's Estimate of Charges for 1861-62 from which the present charge will be met.

3. The Establishment now proposed is estimated to cost Rupees 605 per mensem more than that sanctioned in G. O. of the 18th January 1861, No. 132, as is shown below ; the experience gained during the last fishing season dictates the proposed additions, and the Board recommend them for sanction.

	Former Estimate.		Present Estimate.	
	No.	Cost per mensem.	No.	Cost per mensem.
		RS.		RS.
Establishment in which no changes are proposed...	0	1,126½	0	1,126½
SUPERINTENDENT'S ESTABLISHMENT.				
Shroffs..	1	15	2	30
COOTOO ESTABLISHMENT.				
Head Clerk	0	0	1	35
Counters at 15 Rupees each	20	300	25	375
Coolies at 6 Annas each per diem...	30	337½	50	562½
LIGHT VESSELS.				
Boats with crews on hire at 3½ Rupees each on the former occasion, and now at 4½ Rupees each per diem	2	210	2	270
GUARD BOATS.				
Inspector of Pearl Banks	1	150	1	300
Extra pay to the crew of the "Pearl," which was not employed on the last occasion	0	0	0	35
Report Boat "Laura" with Government Lascars...	0	20	0	30
Total of Establishment in which changes are proposed	0	1,032½	0	1,637½
Grand Total... ...	0	2,159	0	2,764
				2,159
		Increase.	...	605

(A true Copy and Extract.)
(Signed) W. HUDLESTON, *Secretary.*

No. 55. Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 10th December 1861, No. 6,880.

Read the following letter from J. SILVER, Esq., Collector of Tinnevelly, to W. HUDLESTON, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, Chepauk, dated Panagudy, 26th November 1861, No. 510.

SIR,

1. I have the honor to forward for the information of the Board and Government, copy of a report from the Master Attendant Tuticorin, on the examination of the Pearl Banks preparatory to the next Fishery. Captain Phipps has displayed his usual zeal and activity in this work.

2. With reference to my letter of the 23rd instant, forwarding a list of Establishment to be entertained, I request with reference to the concluding remarks of Captain Phipps that Government may sanction the Establishment to be kept up, "as long as the Fishery may last," instead of defining a fixed number of days.

Report on the Examination of the Pearl Banks off Tuticorin and Vypar preparatory to the Fishery of 1862.

1. The examination of the Pearl Banks has this season been greatly delayed by the continuance of dark cloudy weather with rain, which prevented any satisfactory operations being carried on. Although I was able to visit one Bank as early as the 11th of October to ascertain if the Oysters still existed, it was not at that time advisable to proceed with the examination as no rain had fallen, and therefore the sea was not sufficiently clear for the Divers to see what was on the bottom; on the 7th of November a decided favorable change took place; and on the morning of the 8th I proceeded in the "Emily" to the Attonbadoo Par.

2. This is an extensive patch of healthy Oysters; in some parts the Divers found a few dead shells, but not more than was to be expected considering the age of the Oysters, the appearance of which is much more favorable than it was when last examined; this bank will I anticipate yield ten days' Fishery for 50 boats each day in March next. The total number of Oysters taken up for the sample was 5,078.

3. On the morning of the 9th we proceeded to the Tholayirampar and examined the southern part, and found the Oysters very scarce; the seven Divers examined it carefully and after three hours succeeded in only obtaining 68 Oysters. When this Bank was last examined there were an abundance of healthy Oysters, and I then considered that it would yield from 10 to 16 day's Fishery. On the 11th we again proceeded to this Bank, and examined the middle and northern part, but I regret to say without any success, the Oysters on this part having almost entirely disappeared. On some parts dead shells were found, but not in sufficient quantities to make it seem likely that the Bank had died out from age. I am inclined to think that the loss has been caused by a strong current having set over the Bank, which has washed the Oysters away.

4. The Tuticorin Banks know to contain Oysters having now been examined, we proceeded on the 13th to the part of the Bank that was left unfished off Vypar and found large quantities of healthy Oysters. This Bank being extensive it occupied two days in examining. Shortly after leaving the Bank on return to Tuticorin I had the lead hove and the bottom proving rock a Diver, was sent down who reported and sent up young Oysters; we made sail and tacked over the Bank, and on sending the Diver again down in several places young Oysters were brought up. This is no doubt a considerable patch, and should nothing injure it, will yield a large Fishery of itself in 1867.

5. On the morning of the 15th, we again proceeded to the Vypar Bank and examined the southern part of a large patch which was partly fished last year. There is still a large quantity of Oysters remaining, but the spawn of the last season has settled on the Bank and the old Oysters are now thickly covered with immense quantities of young ones. On many of the old Oysters I counted 50 to 60 young on each. On this account the Divers had a great deal of trouble in procuring the number of old Oysters that I required for the sample. It would almost

dvisable to disturb this valuable Bank; but if the old Oysters are not fished it is probable they die the would destroy the young ones attached to them. It will, I think, therefore, to fish the old Oysters, but compel the Divers and people in the boats to throw o the sea at once all the young ones. In this way we may hope that they will attach es to the Bank, and in course of time also help to yield a Fishery. The quantity of removed from these Banks was 5,076. After leaving this Bank I shifted the "Emily" the Cruchanpar. Cloudy weather setting in, the next day prevented the work being d, but on the 16th I was again able to prosecute the operations. The Cruchanpar and tondoopar are two of the Banks that were fished last year, and I deemed it proper to ine them in case any parts should have been left with Oysters remaining. In this I was nted as beyond two or three old and a quantity of young ones nothing valuable was The young Oysters are unfortunately mixed with Sooram, which will, I fear, render anks valueless. On completing the examination I proceeded to the Nagarapar already for the same purpose and found it quite blank.

Having now completed the examination of all the Banks which I propose to fish in March 1862, and samples of Oysters as per margin are in process of decomposition, I would state that the number of days Fishery will I anticipate be not more than twenty days, viz :—

par	5,078
eriapar	5,076
	10,154

Antonbadopar.....		10
North part of Vypar	do.	7
South part	do.	3
		20

the previous Fishery through inexperience it was only advertised to last for 15 days for ts each day, instead of which it lasted nineteen days, the greater number of which 75 boats mployed. Through this error it was found that many persons did not come, and those d, only anticipating a small Fishery did not make proper arrangements for funds; hence s the end of the Fishery the Oysters fell to so low a figure that it was deemed advisable nce close it, as money had become so scarce that all competition was at an end. In the ed Fishery in March next there is no doubt that the quantity of Oysters will be less he number at the former one; but as it is likely that there will be a Fishery in Ceylon it e expected that a large number of the boats that last Fishery came to Tuticorin will this o there, I, therefore, recommend that the Fishery be advertised to employ 100 boats for ys working in two fleets of 50 each on alternate days. This taking into consideration days and Sundays and also bad weather days, will make the time occupied during the y about 40 days.

(Signed) G. A. PHIPPS, *Master Attendant.*

rin, 23rd November 1861.

(True Copy.)

(Signed) J. SILVER, *Collector.*

Ordered to be submitted for the information of Government. The Board request that the ion of Government for the Establishment which was solicited in their Proceedings, dated ecember 1861, No. 6,768, may be conveyed in the terms named by the Collector.

(True Copies and Extract.)

(Signed) W. HUDLESTON, *Secretary.*

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56. ORDER THEREON, 8th January 1862, No. 29.

The Government sanction the temporary Establishment proposed for the Pearl Fishery to be at Tuticorin in March 1862, amounting in the aggregate to 2,764 Rupees, the sanction to good for the rest of the current official year and the monthly charge being passed by the nue Board.

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

Revenue Dept.

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No. 29.

Proceedings of the Madras Govt.,
under date 8th January 1862.

Read the following papers
from the Board of Revenue

Submitting estimate of Establishment for the Interior Pearl Fishery in 1862.

(Here enter 5 Dec/61, No 6768.

Submitting Master Attendant's preliminary Opinion.

(Here enter 10th Dec/61, No 6880.

The Govt sanction the temporary establishment proposed for the Pearl Fishery to be held at Tuticorin in March 1862, amounting in the aggregate to 2,764 Rs. the Sanction to be held good for the official year & the Expenditure to be charged thereto.

12 Copies
Board of Revenue
3 Acct Genl
3 Civil Paymasters

S. W. S.

263-4

TC. 1-61

Pro of the Govt for — 1/10
ver/61 C Law 296 in Ors

Establishment for Pearl
Fishery for 1862

Revenue 1862 Despts.
Pro: of Govt. for Janry: 62

No. 29.

Pro: of the Madras Govt
Dy 8th Janry: 62

Sanctioning the temporary establishment for the Pearl Fishery to be held at Tuticorin in March 1862.

No 54 at 56.

C 25 Dec.