

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 512.

Press
Mis.

121-122

Dated

60 - 3 1862

Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
10th March 1862.*

No. 121. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 8th February 1862,
No. 906 :—

Read the following letter from J. W. B. DYKES, Esq., Collector of Nellore, to W. HUDLE-
STON, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, Chepauk, dated 29th November
1861, No. 261.

SIR,

1. I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of the Board's Proceedings under date the
31st July, and submit the required report on spontaneous Salt, with two Statements of localities.

2. The Deputy Collector, it will be observed, estimates
the probable yield* at 433 garces, but I need scarcely add,
this is a matter on which no certainty can be placed, as an
extra inch of tide, or a high wind on the level shores of the
Pulicat lake would destroy the crop of a season, in a night, and
if there were no such drawbacks, and a good season, a crop far in excess of the quantity estimated
might be expected.

3. The Deputy Collector, it will be observed, applies for permission, paragraph 8, to enter-
tain a Deputy Superintendent on 35 Rupees, as recommended by Mr. Clarke, and for a sum of
Rupees 500 to be placed at the immediate disposal of the Superintendent of Tada, to enable him
to employ coolies in the approaching season; and as regards the first portion of this request, I
beg to recommend that the same be complied with, but as regards the latter, I think other arrange-
ments must be made.

4. I would place the whole care of the spontaneous Salt under one man, selecting him from
the most active and trustworthy of those at present on the strength of the Establishment, and
retaining him as Superintendent only so long as the season for collecting, lasted. When the
season ended, he should revert to his permanent appointment, the acting charge being a stepping
stone, if well performed, to something better. Seeing the appointment was only temporary, and
of necessity arduous, I would make the pay 40 Rupees a month, with reference to present scale;
and, as in such a charge, it is impossible to lay down any fixed rules as to mode of procedure, I
beg to recommend that the same be left to the discretion of the Deputy Collector, who would
personally superintend operations in the coming season, being the first, and would have to arrange

	RS.
† Two-thirds Estabt., &c., for 7 months.	10,162
Manufacturer's share.....	60,051
Carriage hire.....	3,161
Total....	73,374

	SALES.	Maunds.
Exports.....		1,89,671
Inland.....		7,28,653
Total....		9,18,324

at Rupees 180 per garce.

with reference to the means of transport, locally avail-
able, and in each case rigidly adhering to the Board's
orders, and storing the salt at the nearest Salt Depot.

5. Our cost of Manufacture is under 6 per cent.,†
and I would make this the limit within which the De-
puty Collector should work; further limiting his ope-
rations to the investment of such sum as the Board may
think fit; for, it must be remembered, that it is an experi-
ment, and we do not know yet whether the spontaneous
salt will sell as well as the manufactured article in this
District.

From C. NARAYANASAWMI MUDALI, Deputy Collector in charge of the Salt Department,
to J. W. B. DYKES, Esq., Collector of Nellore, dated 16th November 1861, No. 83.

SIR,

1. In obedience to your orders of the 12th August last, on the Proceedings of the Board
of Revenue under date the 31st July 1861, No. 4,112, requiring me to call for information from
Tada and Dugarazpatnam, and submit a detailed report on localities where spontaneous salt is
generated, I have the honor to forward two Statements A and B for Tada and Dugarazpatnam,
showing the number of swamps where the salt is produced; the probable quantity that may be
obtained in each; the charges for collecting and storing it; and the proposed places of storage.

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2. From Statement A, it will be observed that, in the division of Tada, there are four swamps where spontaneous salt is produced. The produce of two of these swamps may be estimated at 150 garces each, and of the other two, at 60 and 15 garces. The Superintendent recommends Kodidala Dinne and Gonumanumitta, which are elevated, as proper places for the storage of salt produced in Patikala Revu, or Swamp No. 1. Gonumanumitta is nearer the swamp than the other, and only four miles distant from the north trunk road. It is accessible to merchants throughout the year, and is close by Kattuvelipalli, the locality selected by Mr. Clarke for storing spontaneous salt, but which unfortunately, it would appear, has the advantage of being within the influence of the flood, a circumstance which I brought to your notice when we visited Kattuvelipalli on the 29th April last, for the purpose of examining the spontaneous salt which had been generated there, but which we were not able to inspect, as it had been washed away by the tides.

3. The site recommended for the storage of salt produced in Swamp No. 2, called the Large Swamp, does not appear to be a very good one. This, I understand, is the place where Mr. Vaughn, the head Assistant Collector, stored the salt he had obtained by throwing a dam across the swamp, and which was subsequently abandoned, I hear, as very inconvenient, and almost inaccessible to merchants, the Swamp No. 1 lying between it and the road. A reference to the English record, however, will, I believe, place the matter in a clear light. But as at present informed, I am not able to propose any place, although it is not impossible that arrangements, I think, may be made to convey this salt to Gonumanumitta at a much less cost than that of the manufactured salt.

4. With regard to Swamp No. 3, or Sura Kalava, the Superintendent suggests that two places are available for storage, the one situated at 250 yards from Kudiri, and the other about half a mile from the same. The second site, it would appear, has the advantage of the northern trunk road running at a distance of four miles, and is accessible to merchants even during the rainy season. It further affords pasture to pack bullocks of merchants. The Superintendent does not mention whether the salt produced in this swamp can be conveniently brought to Gonumanumitta at a distance of about five miles to the north, or to the Tada Kotar, which is about eight miles to the south-west of the swamp. But from what I remember of the state of the country there, I think it can be done so, though I am not at present able to give my decided opinion on this point.

5. Swamp No. 4, or Kondam Kalava, lies between the Velukadu Kotar and Mizur, and is close by the former. The Superintendent proposes to store the salt on the high ground, called Juvimanu Dibba, and another which lies to the south of it. But the position of these places, to the east of the swamp, renders them difficult of access during the rainy season, and the quantity of salt obtainable is but trifling compared with what is produced in the other three swamps. It would therefore be advisable to convey the salt to Gonumanumitta, which is only four miles distant to the west.

6. As regards Dugarazpatnam, it will appear from Statement B that there are ten swamps producing a very small quantity of salt, and that too, in general, of a somewhat inferior quality. And the sites proposed by the Superintendent for storage are all so far removed from the swamps that it is very doubtful if the cost of carriage will be less than the existing rates of Kudivaram, nor is it more certain whether merchants will find easy access to those places, being surrounded, as they are, by swamps: and, not having as yet been able to inspect the places in person, I am not in a position to give my final opinion upon this matter.

7. In my letter to you, dated Ramayapatam, 15th June 1861, I stated that the cost of conveying and storing spontaneous salt would be more or less equal to the Kudivaram at present paid for the manufactured article; and this calculation was made in reference to the distances between the swamps where spontaneous salt is generated and the Kotars of Dugarazpatnam and Tada.

8. In conclusion, I beg to request that early sanction may be obtained for the entertainment of one Deputy Superintendent on a salary of Rupees 35 per mensem, as suggested by

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Mr. Clarke, who with the assistance of the servants of the Velukadu Kotar, will be able to superintend the collection, storage, and sale of spontaneous salt, which is produced in those places, and which, as above stated, may be stored at Gonumanumitta in the village of Mizur, as well as find out other places of production, which, I have reason to think, do exist in the division. In the meanwhile, I have the honor to request that a sum of Rupees 500 may be placed at the disposal of the Superintendent of Tada to enable him to employ coolies, if necessary, for the collection, &c., of that salt during the approaching season.

(True Copy.)

(Signed) J. W. B. DYKES, Collector.

1. With the above letter Mr. Dykes submits his Deputy Collector's proposals for the utilization of the Spontaneous Salt in the vicinity of the Dugarazpatnam and Tada pans, in which he proposes that the Salt in the vicinity of the latter place be stored at Gonumanumitta, though he is doubtful whether the Sura Kalavu Swamp is situated sufficiently near this point (not having visited the locality himself previous to making this report), and that a Superintendent be appointed on Rupees 35 per mensem, with a balance of Rupees 500 at his disposal, for the employment of coolies for the collection and storing of the Salt.

2. The Collector supports the proposal of his Deputy, but would appoint some efficient Officer of the present Salt Establishment to act as Spontaneous Salt Superintendent, permitting him to revert to his appointment when the season was ended, and making his salary, while acting in the superior office, Rupees 40 per mensem.

3. The Board are decidedly in favor of collecting Spontaneous Salt whenever practicable, and the quantity near the Tada pans is considerable, and should be all stored at Gonumanumitta which is in an accessible position. They consider Mr. Dykes' proposal as most likely to ensure an efficient man being appointed to the superintendence, but the detailed arrangements for the collection of the Salt must be left to the discretion and judgment of the Deputy Collector. The Collector should advise with him, as well as with the Collector and Deputy Collector of the Madras District, as proposed in Board's Proceedings under date 9th July 1861, No. 3,601, in regard to the collection and storing of the Salt both at those places and at Striharicottah. The quantity of Spontaneous Salt in the vicinity of Dugarazpatnam is so inconsiderable that it is a question whether it will not be the most economical course to destroy it, but on this point also the Board will be glad to receive the Deputy Collector's further report after visiting the locality.

4. In the meantime the Board resolve to submit the Collector's letter to Government, with a request that sanction may be accorded for the payment of Rupees 40 per mensem to a Superintendent during the collecting season, and for the expenditure in the first instance of Rupees 500 to the payment of labor, in order that the experiment may be at once commenced.

5. The Board regret to notice that the Collector has omitted to state whether he has provided for this charge in his Budget Estimate for the current year, although he was directed invariably to afford the information in every case in their Standing Circular Order, under date 11th October 1861, No. 5,575, but as they observe that he has provided a sum of Rupees 600 "for weighing and measuring," and another of Rupees 1,000 "for contingencies," they will not delay the application to Government, and will submit the Collector's report as to how he proposes to meet the charge as soon as it is received. Mr. Dykes is requested to lose no time in supplying the wanting information.

(True Copies and Extract.)

(Signed) R. A. DALYELL,
Sub-Secretary.

No. 122. ORDER THEREON, 10th March 1862, No. 512.

The arrangements recommended by the Board for the collection of spontaneous Salt in Nellore are approved, and sanction is granted for the employment of a Superintendent temporarily

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10th March 1862.*

on the salary of Rupees 40 per mensem, and for the expenditure of Rupees 500 (five hundred) for the payment of the labor required. In submitting the Collector's explanation as to how he proposes to meet the charge out of his Budget Estimate, the Board will state for what period the services of the Superintendent will be required.

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

places of production, which, I have reason to think, do exist in the Division. In the meanwhile, I have the honor to request that a sum of Rupees 500 may be placed at the disposal of the Superintendent of Tada to enable him to employ coolies, if necessary, for the collection, &c., of that salt during the approaching season.

(True Copy.)

(Signed) J. W. B. DYKES, Collector.

ENCLOSURE No. 2.

ABSTRACT.—Statement showing the number of Swamps where spontaneous salt is generated, the probable quantity that may be obtained, the places of storage proposed by the Superintendent, and the charges of collection, carriage, and storage in the Tada Division.

ENCLOSURE No. 3.

ABSTRACT.—Statement showing the number of Swamps where spontaneous salt is generated, the probable quantity that may be obtained, the places of storage proposed by the Superintendent, and the charges for collection, carriage, and storage in the Dugarazpatnam Division.

1. With the above letter Mr. Dykes submits his Deputy Collector's proposals for the utilization of the Spontaneous Salt in the vicinity of the Dugarazpatnam and Tadda pans, in which he proposes that the Salt in the vicinity of the latter place be stored at Gonumanumitta, though he is doubtful whether the Sura Kalavu Swamp is situated sufficiently near this point (not having visited the locality himself previous to making this report), and that a Superintendent be appointed on Rupees 35 per mensem, with a balance of Rupees 500 at his disposal, for the employment of coolies for the collection and storing of the Salt.

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Malzell

Sub-Secretary.

„ B. Cunliffe, Esq., Collector of Madras.

Edward May

The arrangements recommended by the Board for the collection of spontaneous salt in Kullors are approved, and sanction is granted for the employment of a Superintendent temporarily on the salary of Rs 40 per mensem and for the re-
-newal of Rs 500 (five hundred) for the payment of the labor required. In submitting the following appli-
-cation, as to how he proposes to meet the charge out of his Budget Estimate. I will state for what services the services of the Superintendent will be required. —

MEMORANDUM OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE

No. 537.

Department.

Dec 11 - 1862. Department.
Office of Justice - Clerk

Dated 8th February 1868.

Despatched. 25.8.

received. 204.

Erin L. Conroy

From 13th of Nov. 10th -
 June 1872 23 1/2 1124

No. 906.

Submitting with remarks a letter from the Collector of Nellore forwarding his Deputy's proposals for the utilization of the spontaneous sale in certain localities.