M.R.O. 14—10,000—21-4-22.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 841 Press ~~Mis.~~

244-245

Dated 15 - 4 - 1862

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
15th April 1862.

No. 214. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 18th March 1862, No. 1,787:—

Read the following letter from C. NARAYANSAMI Mudali, Deputy Collector in charge of the Salt Department, Nellore, to J. W. B. DYKES, Esq., Collector of Nellore, dated Juvvaladinne, 22nd February 1862, No. 12.

1. In obedience to your orders of the 4th July last, on paragraph 2 of the Board's Standing Circular, No. 3,325, dated 26th June 1861, I have the honor to subjoin a Statement showing the sales of Salt in the several Salt divisions of this District during the past month, as compared with those of the corresponding month of the preceding year.

Divisions.	Fasli 1270.			Fasli 1271.			Difference.	
	Home Sales.	Inland Sales.	Total.	Home Sale.	Inland Sales.	Total.	Increase.	Decrease.
1. Tada ...	7,171 27 11	45,864 13 10	53,036 1 5	7,597 25 6	35,850 22 1	43,448 7 7	... ...	9,587 33 14
2. Dugarazapatnam	13,793 31 0	4,188 15 11	17,982 6 11	7,710 34 0	1,680 33 15	9,391 27 15	... ...	8,590 18 12
3. Kristnapatnam...	29,057 20 10	11,005 30 14	40,063 11 8	27,699 22 14	16,474 9 7	44,173 32 5	4,110 20 13	... ...
4. Iskapalli ...	26,251 16 9	48,542 10 7	74,793 27 0	24,460 18 12	32,351 13 0	56,811 31 12	... ...	17,981 35 4
5. Pakala... ...	28,402 14 1	30,622 14 11	59,024 28 12	27,949 9 13	8,384 6 0	36,333 15 13	... ...	22,691 12 15
6. Padarti ...	20,644 20 15	2,12,205 10 15	2,32,849 31 14	23,873 7 15	92,842 2 11	1,16,715 10 10	... ...	1,16,134 21 4
Total...	1,25,321 10 11	3,52,128 16 4	4,77,749 27 2	1,19,290 38 12	1,87,583 7 2	3,06,874 5 14	4,110 20 13	1,74,986 2 1

2. From the above Statement, which does not include the Salt exported* and the Salt sold at Vobusamudram* which was taken charge on the 4th January last, it will be seen that there has been a decrease of Maunds 6,030, S. 12, C. 2 in the Home sales, and Maunds 1,64,845, S. 9, C. 2 in the Inland sales in all 1,70,875-21-4, of which 90,030-0-1 is the decrease in January.

* This amounts to Maunds 8,092½.
† This amounts to Maunds 193.

3. From the inquiries I have made, I find that the above decrease is attributable partly to the increased importation by Railway of the Madras Salt into the tracts usually supplied from the Nellore Kotars, and partly to the accumulations of the former years being sold at a cheaper rate than the Salt purchased at the enhanced prices of the current year. The first statement seems borne out by the fact that the sales in Madras during the current year have been larger than in the past years, notwithstanding the recent enhancement which seems to have effected sales in almost every District, as will be seen from the Statement forwarded to Government by the Board for the month of December last. But a question arises as to whether the Madras Salt is more profitable than the Nellore Salt so as to induce the trader to prefer the former to the latter. It is true that the Railway rates may be favorable as compared with the ordinary rates of bandy hire; but added to the cost of carrying Salt from the Kotars to the terminus, in a place where demand for labor is so great, and from the landing station to the merchants' depôt, I do not think that the aggregate cost of carriage in the case of Madras Salt will be less to any material extent than the Salt of Nellore which is generally carried on pack bullocks, for which pasture is available almost throughout the District, free of all costs. Nor do I think that time enters materially into the calculations of a Salt trader's profits, and even if it does, the advantages of Railway speed in the case of Madras Salt are, in my opinion, greatly compensated by the additional profits realized in the Salt traders resorting to this District, who are generally travelling merchants dealing in Tamarind, Soapnuts and several other commodities on their way to the Kotars, and in Salt on their return homewards. I am, therefore, led to think that any preference that may be given by the trader to the Madras Salt should be traced to something more than the mere advantages of a Railway, and it is not improbable that liberal measurement at the Madras Kotars may have contributed towards increasing the sales there, and causing a proportionate decrease in those of Tada and Dugarazapatnam, the two Kotars to the sales of which the remarks above made chiefly apply.

4. As regards the other alleged cause of the decrease, viz., the sale at a cheaper rate of the stock in hand in expectation of a reduction in the monopoly price as was done on a former occasion, I have the honor to state that the information on this point chiefly relates to the territories of the Nizám, and the comparatively few Brinjaries that resorted to Pakala and Badarti informed me that but for the compulsion of the servants of the Nizám, they would not have come at all this year, as no profits could be realized at the rates now obtaining in the local markets there. And if this information were correct (and I have no reason to doubt its correctness), and the trade is held out in expectation of a reduction in the price, the natural law of demand and supply will, in my opinion, soon assert itself, and the loss now sustained be amply made good by increased sales in the year to come.

5. I have also the honor to append for your information another Statement, showing the sales of Salt in the several divisions in each of the last five years, beginning from the 1st July and ending with the 31st January 1862:—

Divisions.	1267.			1268.			1269.			1270.			1271.		
	Quantity.			Quantity.			Quantity.			Quantity.			Quantity.		
	Maunds.	S.	C.	Maunds.	S.	C.	Maunds.	S.	C.	Maunds.	S.	C.	Maunds.	S.	C.
1. Tada ...	48,022	14	3	57,002	21	13	44,135	25	7	53,036	1	5	43,148	7	7
2. Dugarazapatnam	17,436	19	9	18,367	14	2	17,813	30	1	17,982	6	11	9,391	27	15
3. Kristnapatnam..	34,329	34	2	34,832	22	6	36,255	37	11	40,063	11	8	44,173	32	5
4. Iskapalli ...	62,671	2	0	69,710	25	2	64,235	25	14	74,793	27	0	56,811	31	12
5. Pakala ...	53,856	21	6	49,011	3	2	46,692	21	1	59,024	28	12	36,333	15	13
6. Padarti ...	81,329	39	0	1,07,500	6	3	92,904	24	3	2,32,849	31	14	1,16,715	10	10
Total...	2,97,646	10	4	3,36,155	0	12	3,02,068	4	5	4,77,749	27	2	3,06,874	5	14

Forwarded, with reference to the order of the Board quoted above in paragraph 1, and the Salt account for January 1862 submitted on the 18th instant.

(True Copy.)

27th February 1862.
(Signed) J. W. B. DYKES, *Collector.*
To the Secretary to the Board of Revenue.

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1. Ordered to be submitted for the information of Government.

2. The effect of the recent rise in price cannot be judged of from the sale of one District or of one or two months, but the subject will receive close attention from the Board.

3. The Board see no reason to believe that the measurement at the Madras Kotars is so favorable as to attract purchasers from the Nellore depôts, but as almost the entire sales at Madras are wholesale by the double heap of 20 garce, there is a considerable gain by discount without taking into account any excess of contents that may be found in the heap.

(True Copies and Extract.)

(Signed) W. HUDLESTON, *Secretary.*

No. 245. ORDER THEREON, 15th April 1862, No. 841.

Ordered to be recorded.

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

Forwarded, with reference to the order of the Board quoted above in paragraph 1, and the Salt account for January 1862 submitted on the 18th instant.

(True Copy.)

27th February 1862. (Signed) J. W. B. DYKES, Collector.

To the Secretary to the Board of Revenue.

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(True Copies and Extract.)

Secretary.

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

Copy to J. W. B. Dykes, Esq., Collector of Nellore.

Exd. J. Tulloch.

Rev. 1862. Department.
Pro. of Govt for April

No. 955

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE,

From Bd of Revue Dy
22 May 62 No 1544

Dated 18th *March* 1862.
Despatched. 1 April
Received. 2

Despatched

No. 1,787.

Submitting the Deputy Collector's report on the Salt sales effected in June 1861 and 1862 in the Nellore District with the Board's observations thereon.

No 244 & 245

Fort St George
15th Apl 1862
[illegible]

15. April [illegible]