M.R.O. 14—18,000—27-9-24.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 966 Press ~~Mis.~~

71.72

Dated 3 . 5 . ~~19~~ 1921

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department, 3rd May 1862.

No. 71. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 15th April 1862, No. 2,486 : —

Read the following letter from J. SILVER, Esq., Collector of Tinnevelly, to W. HUDLESTON, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, Madras, dated Tinnevelly, 7th April 1862, No. 135.

SIR,

1. I have the honor to report, for the information of the Board and Government, that Captain Phipps, Superintendent of Pearl Banks, having proceeded with my sanction, after the close of the late Fishery to inspect the northern Banks, off the coast of Madura, discovered on the Vypar bank a patch of Oysters that had been overlooked, and as many dead shells were found amongst them, he immediately put back to Tuticorin, and reported to me the necessity of this patch being immediately fished, otherwise the Oysters would be entirely lost, and they are valuable ones.

2. I have given the necessary orders for collecting the Esablishment that had been brokent up and dispersed, and taken all the steps that the shortness of the time would permit, to make this discovery known to boat owners and Pearl merchants, and I hope that the Fishery may be re-commenced on the 10th, and it will probably last a week.

3. I have received an offer from Mr. Cocq of Tuticorin, copy of which is enclosed, to rent the Fishery of this patch, and this offer I have declined to accept. Mr. Cocq guards his offer of a daily rental of Rupees 5,000 by a clause, that sufficient Oysters can be found to employ 50 boats. The experience gained at the last Fishery shows that the quantity of Oysters expected to be found on a bank, cannot always be relied on, and if the boats did not each average a daily Fishery of 5,000 Oysters, it would lead to complications in settling with the Contractor. Besides this, Mr. Cocq's offer is inadequate, he takes a value of *Rupees* 30 per thousand ; the price obtained for Oysters from the Vypar Bank at the last Fishery rose at one time as high as *Rupees* 63 per thousand, and I fully expect to obtain a price ranging from *Rupees* 50 to *Rupees* 60 per thousand. I am also decidedly of opinion that it would be a bad precedent to commence a system of renting out the Pearl Fishery, which ought always to be conducted by and on behalf of Government.

4. The fact that a considerable patch of Oysters existing on the Vypar Bank had been totally overlooked during the late Fishery, shows negligence on the part of all concerned. The chief blame rests with the Parmandadies, the men who are supposed to know and point out the position of the Banks, and after them with the Jodi Talaven, who went out to the bank during the Fishery and reported it clear. I have also expressed to the Superintendent of Pearl Banks, my regret that he did not himself go out to the bank during the Fishery, but that he was satisfied with the reports made by Captain Pascal and the Divers that there were no more Oysters. The Vypar Bank is a very large one, and this patch was overlooked. As it has now been discovered by Captain Phipps, it is clear that neither the Parmandadies nor the Jodi Talaven can expect to reap any advantages from it. I do not believe there was any attempt to conceal these Oysters or to deceive, but there was great negligence, which has caused much additional trouble, and the effect of which negligence these parties should be made to feel. They only receive their remuneration for zeal and diligence shown, and I have therefore now directed that in fishing this patch the Parmandadies are not to be allowed their privilege Oysters, and the Jodi Talaven is not to be allowed his Maniam boats for they have done nothing to deserve them, and this will give them a salutary lesson. The Parmandadies try to say that this patch is a new bank, but Captain Phipps has stated positively, that it is a portion of the Vypar bank examined by him last November, which makes the negligence of these people all the more blame-worthy.

Ordered to be submitted for the information of Government. The Collector's arrangements are approved by the Board.

(A true Copy and Extract.)

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

No. 72. ORDER THEREON, 3rd May 1862, No. 966.

The Collector's proceedings are approved, and the Government concur with Mr. Silver that the fact of this patch being overlooked shows great negligence on the part of all concerned.

(Signed) J. D. SIM,

Secretary to Government.

W. 966.

The Collector's pro-

-ceedings are approved. and

the Government concur

I think hitherto arrangements
have been previous with Mr. Silver that the

pack of this patch
being overlooked shows
great negligence on the part
of all concerned.

W M

Fort St. George
3rd May 1862

14 Copies to the Bd of Rev Cisto

I D S

Copy and Letter to England
of 23 September N. 66 of 1862

Rev = 1862 Depart.
Pro: of Govt for May
N. 1105.

Proceedings of the
Board of Revenue

Dated 15th
Recd 15 } April 1862
Read 16th.
Enc. 1 Origl Returned 12-3-63

No 2486

Pro: Bd of Rev. 8 July 62
C. No. 1964-

Submitting for
information letter from the
Collector of Tinnevelly —
reporting that a patch
of Oysters has been dis-
covered in the Tyapar —
Bank and that a pearl
Fishery is to re commence
on the 10th April next.-

No 71 & 72.

No 966. 3d May

With an Order

17 April Rec'd