M.R.O. 14—13,000—27-9-24.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue **DEPARTMENT.**

G.O. No. 1716 Press ~~Mis.~~

233. 234

Dated 18. 9. ~~10~~ 1863.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department, 18th September 1863.

No. 233. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 8th September 1863, No. 5,622:—

Read again the following replies to the Board's Miscellaneous Circular, dated 12th July 1862, No. 4,487.

No. 4,140, From Ganjam dated 23rd June, in Cons. 2nd July 1863, No. 111.
„ 7,854, „ Vizagapatam dated 4th, in Cons. 10th December 1862, No. 991.
„ 1,912, „ do. dated 21st, in Cons. 30th March 1863, No. 130.
„ 2,707, „ Godavery District dated 27th April, in Cons. 4th May 1863, No. 87.
„ 4,741, „ Kistna District dated 25th, in Cons. 30th July 1862, No. 167.
„ 7,843, „ Nellore dated 6th, in Cons. 11th December 1862, No. 309.
„ 301, „ do. dated 14th, in Cons. 19th January 1863, No. 6.
„ 4,705, „ Madras dated 28th, in Cons. 29th July 1862, No. 262.
„ 5,015, „ South Arcot dated 8th, in Cons. 11th August 1862, No. 155.
„ 4,953, „ Tanjore dated 5th, in Cons. 8th August 1862, No. 299.
„ 4,885, „ Madura dated 30th July, in Cons. 5th August 1862, No. 153.
„ 7,468, „ Tinnevelly 17th, in Cons. 24th November 1862, No. 491.
„ 6,356, „ South Canara 29th September, in Cons. 4th October 1862, No. 101.
„ 5,157, „ Malabar 11th, in Cons. 16th August 1862, No. 166.

1. Resolved that the above letters be submitted to Government with reference to paragraph 7 of the Government Order dated 5th June 1862, No. 1,236.

2. It will be observed that all the Officers to whom the question has been referred are of opinion that the erection of rough thatched sheds over the Salt platforms would be much more expensive, and, at the same time, a less effective protection than the system at present prevailing of covering each heap separately with thatch or mud.

3. The Board are not prepared to recommend any material alteration in the present system, which, as remarked by Mr. Forbes of Ganjam, is characterized by economy and simplicity. They much doubt whether better results would be obtained by a more expensive and elaborate plan for protecting salt in store. At the same time they consider that the mode of covering the heaps in particular Districts may be improved. There is little doubt that for the purpose the most effectual protection which could be devised is that combination of thatch or leaves with mud which Mr. Forbes, alludes to in the close of paragraph 7 of his letter.

4. The want of accommodation for Salt traders does not appear to be generally felt, but in such places as accommodation may be required, the Board would recommend that sanction be granted for the erection of sheds, at a maximum cost of Rupees 50 each, as proposed by the Collector of Tinnevelly. The Board highly approve of Mr. Dykes's suggestion that Casuarina trees be planted in the vicinity of all the pans. These trees take root very easily in a sandy soil, and in a few years topes might be raised which, if planted in the vicinity of the wells, would be an admirable shelter both for the purchasers and their beasts of burden.

5. The improved platforms suggested by Mr. Forbes in paragraphs 4 and 9 of his letter might be tried, the Board think, with decided advantage, when new platforms are about to be erected; and the Board propose to circulate these paragraphs of Mr. Forbes's letter, as well as those relating to an improved system of thatching the salt heaps, for general information, in order that the other Collectors may make in their Districts such improvements as may seem necessary.

6. The suggestion made by the Deputy Collector in charge of Salt in the Godavery District that masonry walls should be erected round the platforms would involve a very large outlay, and the Board consider that if the orders regarding the ingress to and egress from the pans and platforms, are carefully attended to, such an expensive fence will not be required.

7. The Collector of South Arcot will be requested to report further upon the great disproportion which exists between the cost of covering salt heaps at the pans south of Cuddalore, and the charge made at Mercanum. He will be requested to state whether the outlay of 1 Rupee

per Garce for this purpose at the latter place is now borne by the manufacturers or by the Government.

No. 234.

ORDER THEREON, 18th September 1863, No. 1,716.

1. The Government agree with the Board that the present system of protecting Salt heaps is on the whole the best.

2. The recommendation in paragraph 4 of the Board's Proceedings is approved. Palmyra trees can be planted where Casuarinas are not procurable or in preference to the latter where materials for thatching are not at hand.

3. With regard to paragraph 6 the pans and not merely the platforms should gradually be fenced in with Aloe hedges or in some other economical way. It is at the pans that smuggling is most easily carried on.

(True Extract.)

Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue.
" Accountant General.
" Civil Paymaster.

Exd. S. T. Augustin.

CIRCULAR.

MISCELLANEOUS.
No. 4,487.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE, dated 12th July 1862.

Read the following:—

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue:—

Submitting with remarks a letter from the Collector of Vizagapatam, forwarding the Administration Report of his Salt Deputy. } (Here enter 10th December 1861, No. 6,886.)

ORDER THEREON, 5th June 1862, No. 1,236.

1. With these Proceedings the Board of Revenue submit the report of the Deputy Collector attached to the Salt Department in Vizagapatam. The report contains several good suggestions, and is especially satisfactory as evincing the interest which T. Jugannaikulu takes in his duties, and his personal exertions to render the Department efficient. The Board have so fully reviewed the report that the Government need notice but few points.

2. Every effort should be used to improve the quality of the Salt manufactured in the District. The remuneration allowed to the manufacturers, viz., Rupees 6-5-9 per garce, certainly appears very low. In their Order of the 12th ultimo, No. 1,043, Government have sanctioned its being at once raised to $7\frac{1}{8}$ Rupees, which is the general rate sanctioned for the adjoining District. In order, however, to ensure the manufacture of good Salt, it will be necessary strictly to enforce the rule of rejecting all that may be produced of inferior quality.

3. The reduction of wastage in the Salt is one of the chief results expected from the employment of a Deputy Collector solely for the Salt Department. The Government observe that Jugannaikulu Nayudu has exerted himself much to bring about such a result, and they trust that he will succeed in reducing the wastage to a minimum, preventing at the same time over-measurement into store.

4. The Deputy Collector's endeavors to repress smuggling, and the manufacture of earth Salt, are highly creditable. In some respects, however, his zeal has carried him too far. The Government do not approve of "Muchilkas," or penal agreements, being taken from the village Officers "to prevent crime and apprehend the guilty parties." The deputation of ill-paid Peons on detective missions is of very questionable utility, and the requiring weekly and fortnightly reports from the Heads of Police must take up much of the time of these Officers to little purpose.

5. Before finally authorizing the adoption of the suggestion of the Deputy Collector to recognize only a certain number of the Salt Ryots as Head Ryots, the Board will submit to Government the report which they have called for, as to whether such a rule would interfere with any vested rights in the pans. They will ascertain also how these "Head Ryots" can be held answerable for the misdeeds of the other Ryots.

6. The subject of improving the approaches to the Salt pans should receive early attention. Paragraphs 77 to 80 of the Deputy Collector's report, and paragraphs 15 and 16 of the Board's Proceedings will accordingly be referred to the Public Works Department.

It is probable that the small consumption of Salt, viz., 8 lbs. per head, is in part owing to the want of good communications from the pans to the interior.

7. The Board will ascertain the probable cost of erecting sheds over the platforms and keeping them in proper order, and report whether this plan of protecting Salt would be more economical and effective than that now adopted of thatching each separate heap. The Government admit the propriety of making reasonable provision for the comfort of purchasers at stations, which

are distant from villages where accommodation can otherwise be procured; but they must have some definite proposition laid before them, showing the nature and cost of the arrangements required.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) A. J. ARBUTHNOT,
Acting Chief Secretary to Government.

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1. Communicated to the Acting Collector of Vizagapatam, who will be requested to report on paragraphs 5 and 7.

2. The remuneration referred to in paragraph 2, viz., 7⅛ Rupees, is apparently a misprint for 7½ Rupees.

3. The Collector of all Coast Districts will be called upon for their opinion on paragraph 7 of the foregoing Order. The remarks of the Collector* of Vizagapatam and the Board† of Revenue on the point in question will be communicated to them for that purpose.

(True Extracts.)

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

(True Copy.)

(Signed) W. SCHARLIEB,
First Assistant.

* Mr. Fane's remarks on paragraphs 88 and 90 of his Salt Deputy's Report, dated 29th August 1861, No. 12.

† Paragraph 20 Board's Proceedings 10th December 1861, No. 6,886.

To All Collectors.

Exd. J. Wright.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE.

MISCELLANEOUS.

CIRCULAR.

Dated 12th July 1862.

Despatched

Received

No. 4,487.

Calling upon Collectors to give their opinion as to the most economical and effective mode of protecting Salt.

EXTRACT from the Remarks of the Collector of Vizagapatam on paragraphs 88 and 90 of his Salt Deputy's Report, dated 29th August 1861, No. 12.

* * * *

Deputy Collector's Report.

88. Stone platforms would, I fear, be too expensive to be sanctioned; but if over each platform a large thatched roof on stone pillars was erected, and a low parapet wall built all round on the margin of the platform, the heaps would be secured from all risk of damage by rain, and the sales might go on at all times of the day whether wet or dry.

88. I therefore recommend that the platforms be constructed with rough stone, leaving regular passes between the lines of heaps, and also making the sides of the platforms little aslope, so that the water may directly run down to the ditch. By doing this, it will not only diminish the present amount of wastage, but also preserve the salt from assuming the mud colour, as it does at present while in measurement and heaping, &c.

* *

90. This system of simply covering the heaps with Palmira leaves, seems generally to answer, but if the roofing I propose was sanctioned, the salt would never get damaged. Salt before delivery might also be kept here, instead of being exposed to the wind and rain as it is now. By this exposure to the wind it now becomes much mixed with sand, and loses its purity. At all the Cotaurs some building for the accommodation of traders is much wanted, and should at once be erected. At present the poor people have no shelter, and the sales therefore are very dull during the rainy season. Near the sheds or Choultries a couple of wells should be sunk. At present traders have to drink water from the tanks, which are filthy to a degree from the bullocks being washed and taken to water there.

90. The present mode of protecting the heaps, is by covering them with Palmira leaves and Paddy straw. This covering, if carefully made with fresh leaves and strong straw, will protect the heaps sufficiently.

* * * *

EXTRACT from Board's Proceedings, dated 10th December 1861, No. 6,886.

* * * *

20. The Board concur with the Collector in considering that the substitution of masonry platforms for those at present in use would be an unnecessary expense, but uniformity in the size and shape of the heaps should be insisted on, and the improvements suggested by Mr. Fane are worthy of attention if not of too expensive a nature. The Board presume that the sheds he proposes to erect over the platforms are to be merely built with standard poles and Palmira leaves, but unless they were made to project considerably beyond the platforms, they would not give the same protection against the weather that the present system of covering does. The accommodation of the purchasers should also, the Board think, receive due attention; and the Collector should be authorized to incur any moderate expenditure for this purpose.

From G. S. FORBES, Esq., Collector of Ganjam, to W. HUDLESTON, Esq, Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Chetterpoor, 23rd June 1863, No. 111.

1. I have the honor to reply to the Board's Circular Order, No. 4,487, dated the 12th July last, regarding the best mode of securing salt, and to express my regret at having so long overlooked this reference.

2. The enclosed letter written in February last, by the Acting Salt Deputy Collector, for whose opinion I had called, will show the Board, however, that the subject had already received attention.

3. I believe the suggestion of stone platforms (that is of dressed stone work without mortar) originated with myself. I have no doubt it might be adopted with advantage, but the expense would in most places constitute an objection too serious to be over ruled. Acting Deputy Collector Mahomed Ali suggests a modification of the plan in the shape of a retaining wall of stone with gravel inside, which would certainly be an improvement on the present system of constructing raised platforms of the neighbouring soil, which constitutes about the worst description of basement for salt that could well be devised, and must say that our ordinary salt platforms show a great want of common intelligence on the part of the person who first hit upon such a plan.

4. Another description of platform, still cheaper and more suitable to the purpose than that suggested by Mahomed Ali, might, however, be tried, and I feel pretty confident with complete success. It should be composed entirely of sand, faced on the sides with about a foot of clay, with a gentle slope and carefully turfed. The surface will be of course levelled and kept damp until the salt is stored when the leakage from the heaps will suffice to keep the sand moist. The sand will require to be wetted and beaten as the platform is thrown up, and when the salt is stored, the whole mass will preserve the firm consistency always observable in compressed wet sand. The flooring of the platform will be always clean as well as firm, and the salt may be heaped on it without any intervening protection.

5. As regards the covering of salt heaps, perhaps the most perfect protection would be afforded by long tiled sheds with low projecting eaves and open sides, the roof being of sufficient height to admit a free current of air to pass over the salt.

6. There is something to be said, however, on both sides in comparing this plan with the present simple one of thatching each heap with straw or long grass. It is questionable whether the free contact of the atmosphere with the salt under some conditions (and those not of rare occurrence) is not injurious. Currents of air laiden with moisture from rain or fog or from the "long shore" would probably increase the rate of wastages; at such seasons the thatch which protects the surface of the heap is a decided advantage.

7. Again the tiled sheds being of great extent would be extremely expensive both to construct and keep up, whereas one remarkable feature in our salt manufacture is the simplicity and consequent economy of all the arrangements, hence the outlay is very small in proportion to the monopoly price low as this has always been in Madras when compared with the Bengal duty. The cost of manufacture with us is one-fourth what it is (or rather was) in Bengal where the charges were further swelled by very expensive establishments and costly buildings. The consequence of the high rate paid by the Bengal Government for their salt has been that English salt is now landed at Calcutta, &c., at a lower price, and the manufactures of lower Bengal are broken up. As, therefore, it is on every ground desirable to maintain the economical character of our salt works, I am disposed to recommend adherence to the old system of protecting the heaps by thatch, or, as in Tanjore and South Arcot, by a coating of clay.

8. Much may perhaps be done to improve the method in which this is effected, and to obtain the necessary quantity of grass in the least costly manner by obtaining possession of river islands and banks where the long coarse grass which forms the best thatch is grown, and by laying down open tracts near the pans with the roots of the same species which spreads rapidly.

9. The construction of platforms with sa[illegible] is not open to the objection of great expense as salt works are never far from the beach. In the case of existing platforms it may be found sufficient when they next require repair to add a foot or two of sand above the earth, and when new ones are to be made the plan of using nothing but sand can be tried.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

From MAHOMED ALI, Acting Deputy Collector in charge of Salt Department, to G. S. FORBES, Esq., Collector of Ganjam, dated Somady, 9th February 1863, No. 5.

1. I beg to acknowledge the receipt of your Official Memorandum of the 6th December last, No. 84, and to state that it appears by the records that the Proceedings of Government, dated 12th July 1862, No. 4,487, quoted in your Memorandum has been received by my predecessor before ever I assumed charge of this office.

2. With reference to paragraph 88 of the above Proceedings, I am of opinion that the stone platforms would be very useful but rather expensive; and that, if the margins of the platforms be made of rough stone with a parapet wall built all round, and gravelled nicely inside with a little slope at the edges, leaving regular passages between the lines of the salt heaps to carry off drainage would suit well and would be less expensive.

3. With reference to paragraph 90, I am of opinion that the platforms being very extensive, one large roof cannot stand over each platform; I would, therefore, think that two or three continuous extended tiled roofs would be the very best thing.

4. I further beg to submit an estimate of the probable cost of erecting thatched sheds over each line of heaps on the platforms as called for in the said Proceedings. I should have sent this at an earlier date, but could not succeed in obtaining the necessary information from the Salt Superintendents of Nowadah and Oomervelly who have delayed forwarding to me the required information on this subject till repeated orders were issued.

(True Copy.)

(Signed) G. S. FORBES, Collector.

ENCLOSURE No. 2.

ESTIMATE *of probable cost of erecting Thatched Sheds over the Platforms.*

Names of the Cotaurs.	Names of the Platforms.	Cost. Rs.	A.	P.	Total. Rs.	A.	P.
1. Ganjam...	Sree Jugunnaikooloo platform... ...	11,169	0	0			
	Cunnocoodda platform	5,256	0	0			
					16,425	0	0
2. Munsoorcottah....	Sree Jugunnaikooloo platform ...	4,830	0	0			
	New platform	4,830	0	0			
					9,660	9	0
3. Itchapoor.....	New platform	4,830	0	0			
					4,830	0	0
4. Nowpada.....	Sree Ramloo platform	30,590	0	0			
	Sree Venkataswerloo platform	26,307	2	0			
	Sree Croostnooloo platform...	11,225	2	0			
					68,122	4	0
5. Omervilly..... ...	Sree Jugunnaikooloo platform	10,152	0	0			
	Sree Croostnooloo platform...	4,674	8	0			
	Sree Ramloo platform	4,674	8	0			
					19,501	0	0
				Total...	1,18,538	4	0

SOMADY, 9th February 1863. (Signed) MAHOMED ALI, Acting Deputy Collector.

(True Copy.)

(Signed) G. S. FORBES, Collector.

Exd. J. Wright.

No. 8,339.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE, dated 22nd December 1862.

Read the following letter from D. F. CARMICHAEL, Esq., Acting Collector of Vizagapatam, to W. HUDLESTON, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Bimlipatam, 4th December 1862, No. 991:—

1. I beg now to reply to Miscellaneous Circular No. 4,487, dated 12th July last.

2. In regard to the probable cost of erecting sheds over the salt platforms (paragraph 7 of the Order of Government forwarded with the Circular), the Acting District Engineer under date 27th October informed me that the sums necessary to roof in the platforms at Korasa* and Balacheruvu† only, would be Rupees 14,500 and Rupees 19,800 respectively. I at once requested the Deputy Collector to wait on the Engineer, in view to seeing whether any reduction was possible in this very large Estimate; but on the 15th ultimo, I was informed that "the Salt Deputy Collector, on the contrary, suggests further additions, that would, if carried out, about double the amount."

* 717 feet by 246.
† 1,245 feet by 195.

3. The scheme was not the Deputy Collector's; it was proposed by Mr. Fane in substitution of Mr. Jagannaikloo's plan of constructing platforms with rough stone (*vide* paragraph 88 of Deputy Collector's report forwarded by Collector with remarks on the 29th August 1861, No. 12), I have therefore requested the Engineer to furnish me with an Estimate for Mr. Jagannaikloo's proposal. The expense attending the sheds renders *that* scheme impossible; besides, the first Assistant District Engineer stated to me in conversation, that such a construction would inevitably be blown down by the first strong gale of wind.

4. The other point I am required to report on, is, the recognition of a few only of the actual Ryots. I cannot see how it can be done. It would be a direct infringement of vested rights, which the parties superseded would not tamely submit to, and under which they would be altogether beyond the control of the favored minority.

Ordered to be submitted to Government with reference to their Order dated 5th June 1862, No. 1,236. The Deputy Collector's proposal for the recognition of a certain number of Salt Ryots as Head Ryots would seem to be impracticable. The Board do not, however, understand why the erection of roughly made Palmyra leaf roofs over the platforms, should be so expensive, and the Acting Collector is requested to report whether the Estimate of the District Engineer's contemplated sheds of this description only. Mr. Carmichael will also be good enough to report in the latter portion of paragraph 7 of the Order of Government, for he has omitted in his present letter to notice the points to which the Government refer.

(A true Copy and Extract.)

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

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

Copy to D. F. Carmichael, Esq., Acting Collector of Vizagapatam.

Exd. J. Wright.

1862. Department.

No.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE,

Dated 22nd December 1862.
Despatched.
Received.

No. 8,339.

Submitting with the Board's remarks a letter from the Acting Collector of Vizagapatam, replying to the Board's Circular calling for opinion as to the most economical and effective means of protecting Salt.

No. 2,172.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE, dated 16th April 1863.

Read the following letter from D. F. CARMICHAEL, Esq., Acting Collector of Vizagapatam, to W. HUDLESTON, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated 21st March 1863, No. 130 :—

1. In reply to the Board's Proceedings dated 22nd December last, No. 8,339, I have the honor to state that Captain Molony, 1st Assistant District Engineer, reports that the Salt platform roof estimates "were for the construction of ordinary sheds covered with palmyra leaves, secured "over all with bamboo lattice work to prevent the thatch being blown up during strong winds."

2. With reference to the request to report on the latter part of paragraph 7 of the Order of Government dated 5th June 1862, No. 1,236, I beg to refer you to my letter of the 8th October 1862, No. 827, with which I forwarded the estimates for the Traders' sheds, and which the Board submitted to Government with their Proceedings dated 30th October 1862, No. 7,176.

Recorded.

(A true Copy and Extract.)

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

To D. F. Carmichael, Esq., Acting Collector of Vizagapatam.

Exd. J. Wright.

From A. PURVIS, Esq., Collector of the Godavery District, to W. HUDLESTON, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Cocanada, 27th April 1863, No. 87.

1. With reference to the Board's Miscellaneous Circular, N° 4,437, dated 12th July 1862 communicating the Order of Government of the 5th June, No. 1,236, on the subject of protecting salt, I have the honor to state that the plan proposed by the Collector of Vizagapatam, for erecting sheds over the salt platforms, does not appear to me to be necessary or advisable. A great expenditure would be entailed without much advantage.

2. The present mode of thatching the heaps is well suited to protect the salt from the weather, and if ordinary care be taken at the time of first covering the heaps, and the leaves are renewed from time to time as required, the covering is almost impervious to any sort of weather. I do not think sheds for the salt purchasers are required.

3. The Deputy Collector in charge of the Salt Department urges the necessity of the erection of masonry walls around the salt platforms, instead of the hedges, which are now being raised as directed in the Board's Standing Circular, No. X, dated 22nd January 1863. No doubt a wall is better than a hedge, but the cost of the former will, I fear, be very great. I have requested the District Engineer to furnish me with an estimate of the probable expense of erecting masonry walls round the platforms of, say, 10 feet high, with palisades, or pieces of broken glass on the top.

Ext. J. Wright.

1863. Department.

No

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE,

Dated 16*th April* 1863.

No. 2,172.

Recording letter from the Acting Collector of Vizagapatam, stating that the 1st Assistant District Engineer reports that the Salt platform roof Estimates were for the construction of ordinary sheds covered with Palmira leaves and refers to his letter No 827 of 8th October last with reference to para 7 of the Order of Government No 1236 of the 8th October.

From G. THORNHILL, Esq., Collector of the Kistna District, to W. HUDLESTON, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Masulipatam, 25th July 1862, No. 167.

1. With reference to the Board's Miscellaneous Circular, No. 4,487, dated 12th July 1862, paragraph 3, calling for the opinion of Collectors as to the best mode of protecting salt in store, I have the honor to state that I have consulted the Deputy Collector in charge of the Salt on the subject, and agree with him in thinking that the mode proposed by the Collector of Vizagapatam could not be carried out in this District, except at a cost totally disproportioned to the benefits which would be likely to accrue from it.

2. Under the present system, the heaps are separately thatched with grass, and if the heaps be properly shaped and the thatch carefully laid on, it is a very effectual mode of protecting the salt from the effects of the weather. It is also a highly efficient plan for protecting the heaps from pilfer, as the thatch cannot be removed by thieves, and re-placed without speedy detection.

3. The sheds proposed would not afford so good protection either from the weather or from thieves. They would be more liable to leakage, and being open at the sides, the roofing would be liable to constant disturbance from storms, and frequent repairs would be required, and the salt being without any immediate cover, would be more liable to pilfer.

4. These sheds would no doubt afford protection to salt heaped on the platforms before being taken into store; but at the same time the salt being at once placed under cover, would not dry so thoroughly as when exposed.

5. The rough sheds proposed by the Board would, I think, have no real advantage from the present mode of protection, and the roughest sheds could not in this District be constructed except at enormous cost.

6. The average number of heaps, of yards 11 by yards 7 each, to be protected would be over 1,200, and all the materials for the sheds would have to be brought from a long distance, and the sheds when constructed would be in constant need of costly repairs.

7. I have not called for estimates for the cost of these sheds from the District Engineer, so convinced am I that the cost would greatly exceed the advantages to be derived from them.

8. I am quite of opinion that the present mode of covering salt is better suited than any other to the present mode of manufacture. If the manufacture could be more concentrated, it might be advantageous to erect permanent buildings as store-houses; but so long as, as at present, it is gathered over widely extended surfaces of the ground, I believe thatched heaps on well raised and drained platforms, to be the best mode of storing.

Exd. J. Wright.

No. 552.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE, dated 28th January 1863.

Read the following letter from J. W. B. DYKES, Esq., Collector of Nellore, to W. HUDLESTON, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Udayagiri, 14th January 1863, No. 6:—

1. I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, under date the 18th ultimo, No. 8,247, observing with reference to my letter of the 6th idem, No. 309, that the Government desire my opinion as to whether the erection of rough *thatched* sheds over the platforms would be a more economical and efficient protection against the weather, than the present system of covering each heap separately, and what would be the probable expense of the change.

2. In reply, I have the honor to state that this point was also taken into consideration before my letter of the 6th ultimo was written, and considered unadvisable for want of wood as well as with reference to approaches.

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1. The Collector has not yet stated what the probable cost of the sheds contemplated would be, as compared with the present system of covering each heap separately, but the Board presume from his present and former letters that the change would be an expensive one.

2. Mr. Dykes' letters will be submitted to Government when the replies from other Districts have been received.

(A true Copy and Extract.)

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

To J. W. B. Dykes, Esq., Collector of Nellore.

Exd. J. Wright.

No.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE,

Dated 18th December 1862.

No. 8,247.

Explaining the object of the Board's reference as to the most economical and effective mode of protecting Salt.

1863. Department.

No.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE,

Dated 28th January 1863.

No. 552.

Stating that his letter about covering Salt platforms will be submitted to Government when the other replies have been received and observing he has not yet stated what the probable cost of the contemplated sheds would be.

8 10

From B. CUNLIFFE, Esq., Collector of Madras, to W. HUDLESTON, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Saidapet, 28th July 1862, No. 262.

1. I have the honor to forward the joint opinion of the Deputy Collector in charge of Salt and of myself, as directed in Circular, Miscellaneous No. 4,487, in regard to the proposal of the Collector of Vizagapatam to store salt under a large thatched roof covering the platform.

2. We think preferable our present practice of thatching each individual heap with Palmyra leaves, and binding down the latter with stripes of clay. The wastage due to this mode of protection is very trifling.

3. To cover in the salt at the Madras Kottars, putting five or six heaps under one thatch, would be vastly expensive, but even to adopt the method at the smaller platforms in the south of the District would, we think, not lessen the wastage or be superior to the present mode of covering.

4. The platforms are unusually on a large plain exposed to the full force of the wind, and a large thatch would be in great danger in our periodical gales, and, supposing that the salt is stored in uncovered heaps under the thatch, if the latter should leak during a monsoon, and no ready means of repair at hand, a large amount of wastage would take place.

5. At the Madras Kottars good water is procured from a "water pandal" kept up by very small contributions from the wholesale dealers, salt manufacturers, and Kottar coolies, and when it is decided what stations should be continued in the south of the District, a shed for purchasers, and a well of drinking water can be supplied at a small expense.

Exd. J. Wright.

1863. Department.

No.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE,

Dated 28th January 1863.

No. 552.

Stating that his letter about covering Salt platforms will be submitted to Government when the other replies have been received and observing he has not yet stated what the probable cost of the contemplated sheds would be.

8 10

From B. CUNLIFFE, Esq., Collector of Madras, to W. HUDLESTON, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Saidapet, 28th July 1862, No. 262.

1. I have the honor to forward the joint opinion of the Deputy Collector in charge of Salt and of myself, as directed in Circular, Miscellaneous No. 4,487, in regard to the proposal of the Collector of Vizagapatam to store salt under a large thatched roof covering the platform.

2. We think preferable our present practice of thatching each individual heap with Palmyra leaves, and binding down the latter with stripes of clay. The wastage due to this mode of protection is very trifling.

3. To cover in the salt at the Madras Kottars, putting five or six heaps under one thatch, would be vastly expensive, but even to adopt the method at the smaller platforms in the south of the District would, we think, not lessen the wastage or be superior to the present mode of covering.

4. The platforms are unusually on a large plain exposed to the full force of the wind, and a large thatch would be in great danger in our periodical gales, and, supposing that the salt is stored in uncovered heaps under the thatch, if the latter should leak during a monsoon, and no ready means of repair at hand, a large amount of wastage would take place.

5. At the Madras Kottars good water is procured from a "water pandal" kept up by very small contributions from the wholesale dealers, salt manufacturers, and Kottar coolies, and when it is decided what stations should be continued in the south of the District, a shed for purchasers, and a well of drinking water can be supplied at a small expense.

Exd. J. Wright.

From H. G. SMITH, Esq., Acting Collector of South Arcot, to W. HUDLESTON, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Cuddalore, 5th August 1862, No. 155.

1. With reference to paragraph 7 of the Government Proceeding, dated the 5th June* 1862, No. 1,236, forwarded to me for report, I have the honor to state that, so far as this District is concerned, there is no necessity for erecting sheds over the platforms. It would only entail a heavy expenditure without affording adequate protection to the Salt heaps. The present system of thatching, if slightly improved, would answer the purpose effectually.

* Board's Proceedings. Miscellaneous, No. 4,187, dated 12th July 1862.

2. In Goondalum and Teagavelly the heaps are covered with Palmirah leaves only; and at Killay they are encased in mud which affords about the same protection; but neither are quite sufficient.

3. The cost is Rupees 1-10-0 per heap, or Annas 1-8 per Garce at Goondalum. In Teagavelly it amounts to Annas 15 per heap, or Annas 1-6 per Garce; and at Killay to Rupees 2-4-5 per heap, or Annas 3-8 per Garce.

3. To improve this method of covering, and to render it almost impervious to rain, even during the monsoon, I propose to thatch each heap with straw, which, according to the subjoined calculation, will, as near as possible, amount to 4 Annas per Garce, which increase of expenditure will be more than met by the reduction I proposed, in a subsequent paragraph, to be effected at Mercanum.

4. I assume in each of these places the average turn out to be 350 Garces which × by 3, the number of places = 1,050 Garces, which at 4 Annas per Garce amounts to Rupees 262-8-0.

5. At Mercanum the heaps are thatched with gumboo grass at a cost of 1 Rupee per Garce, or 10 Rupees per heap which is enormous, the reason of which is that the work is entrusted to the salt manufacturers.

6. I therefore propose that the Ameens at Mercanum should be ordered as are those at Goondalum, Teagavelly, and Killay, to undertake this work. The grass can be easily procured from the tanks in the neighbourhood; and we should only have to pay for cutting and conveying the grass and putting it on the heaps which could be done at one-fourth the present cost, or at the most for 3 Rupees per heap. This covering is in every way most effectual.

	Rs.
Note.—The present cost of covering 4,000 Garces usually stored at Mercanum is at 1 Rupee per Garce.....	4,000
Cost as proposed on the same quantity at 4 Annas a Garce.....	1,000
Net saving...	3,000

7. As regards providing accommodation for purchasers at the Salt Kottars during the rainy season, I am of opinion it would only be a waste of money, for the trader has only to drive up to the Kottar, buy his required quantity of Salt, and go away.

8. As selling salt during the rains injures the heaps, no sales ought to take place, and during fine weather no covering is necessary.

9. Another reason also for not affording covering to traders, is the great inducement it would hold out to them, and their followers, to loiter about the place, which might tend and would do so in all probability to their colluding with the Salt officers, and thus cause considerable smuggling.

Exd J. Wright.

12

From G. L. MORRIS, Esq., Acting Collector of Tanjore, to W. HUDLESTON, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Point Calimere, 5th August 1862, No. 299.

1. I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of the Board's Miscellaneous Circular, 12th July 1862, No. 4,487, calling for my opinion regarding the probable cost of erecting sheds over the salt platforms and keeping them in proper order, and whether this plan of protecting salt would be more economical and effective than that now adopted of thatching each separate heap.

2. The salt platforms in Tanjore are, on an average, capable of containing 36 heaps of salt of 10 garce each. The cost of erecting such sheds over them as are described in paragraph 88 of the Collector of Vizagapatam's letter would be Rupees 1,086, and the yearly sum required for keeping the same in repair would amount to about 362 Rupees.

3. It has never been the custom in this District to thatch the heaps. All that is done is to cover each heap with sand and then beat down a layer of clay over the sand. This has been found to answer the purpose required very well; and I am therefore of opinion that the erecting of sheds over each platform, or the thatching of each separate heap would be an unnecessary expense.

4. No complaints have ever been made by salt traders regarding want of accommodation near the salt stations, and I do not think that any particular arrangements for this purpose are required in Tanjore.

Exd. J. Wright.

விரு.

தமிழ்நாடு ஆவணக் காப்பகம்.
(ஆராய்ச்சிக்கூடம்)

3657

ஆவணங்களுக்கான கோரிக்கை.
எட்டின் விவரம்.

தொகுதி எண். அ.ஆ./வ.நி. எண்.	எட்டின் எண்.	அறை.
Revenue proceedings 18.9.1863 G.O.no. 1718		

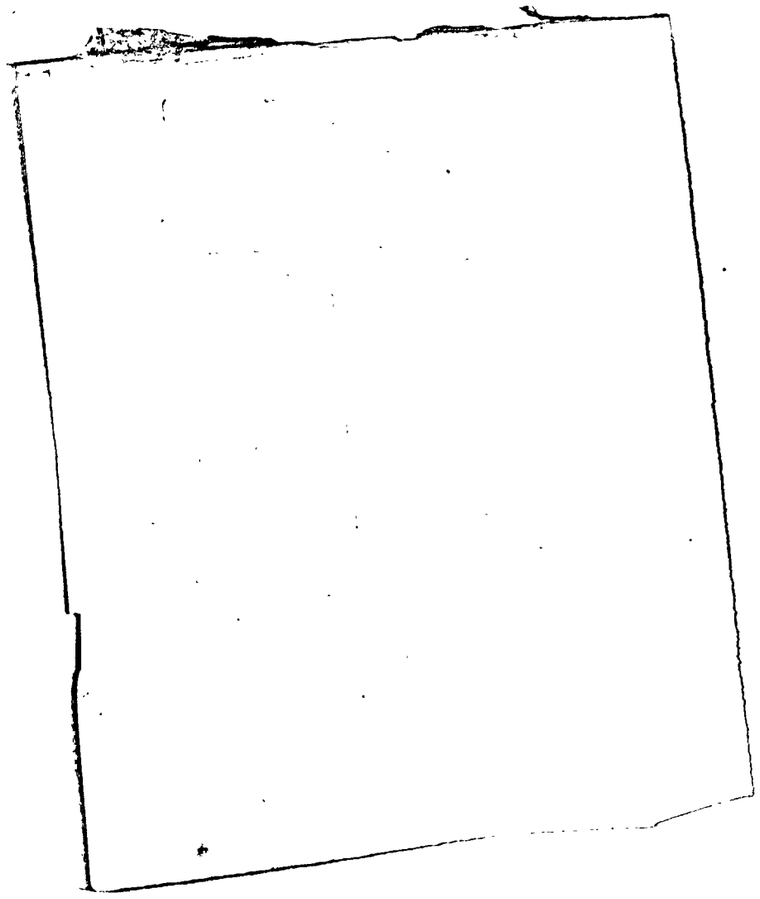
P. no - 233-234

தேதி : 17/9

கையொப்பம்.

குறிப்பு.— (1) ஒரே கோரிக்கையில் ஒன்றுக்கு மேற்பட்ட அறைகளோடு தொடர்புள்ள ஆவணங்களைச் சேர்க்கக் கூடாது.

(2) கோரிக்கை இரட்டைப்படிகளாக எழுதப்பட வேண்டும்.



From V. H. LEVINGE, Esq., Collector of Madura, to W. HUDLESTON, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Kodaikanel, 30th July 1862, No. 153.

1. With reference to the Board's Miscellaneous Circular, No. 4,487, dated the 12th July, I have the honor to report that the present method of protecting the salt heaps in this District is effective and economical, and that I do not think it advisable to propose any alterations.

2. The heaps are now covered with Palmira leaves which on the spot are cheaply and readily procurable; over which is placed covering of mud, which only requires to be looked after to be kept water tight.

3. At the entrance to all the platforms there is a shed for the watching Peons, and for the attendants to sit in, this affords shelter to purchasers, and no other seems to be required.

4. Good water is seldom procurable near the salt pans; where it is, the Salt Ryots would themselves for their own convenience, provid. wells at their own cost as do all the villagers in their own villages, whether near the salt pans or not, and I do not think that in this District is there the slightest necessity for Government to provide at or near the pans water and shelter for the purchasers.

Exd. J. Wright.

From J. SILVER, Esq., Collector of Tinnevelly, to W. HUDLESTON, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated 17th November 1862, No. 491.

1. With reference to the Board's Miscellaneous Circular dated the 12th July 1862, No. 4,487, calling for a report on the questions contained in paragraph 7 of the Order of Government thereto annexed, whether the proposed plan of protecting salt by erecting large sheds over the platforms would be more economical and effective than that now adopted of covering each heap separately, and what would be the cost of providing accommodation for purchasers at the salt stations, I have the honor to state that after consulting with the Deputy Collector Mr. Underwood, and the Acting District Engineer Captain Paxton, and giving the matter due consideration, I am of opinion that the present mode of protecting the salt in this District by covering each heap with palmirah leaves and mud is the best and cheapest. The proposed sheds would never answer in this District. Not only will the cost of constructing them be considerable, but it would be almost impossible to keep out the sand during the strong land winds which prevail in the manufacturing season, and which would also necessitate continual repair to the sheds.

2. Mr. Underwood recommends that in addition to covering the heaps as is now done, there should be a wall raised from the ground all round the platforms up to their level, and that the flooring should be of brick in chunam with drains surrounding each heap and the platform; but Captain Paxton points out that this will cost an enormous amount.

3. As regards the accommodation for merchants coming to buy salt, I beg to state that there is a building attached to the platform at Tuticorin suited to the purpose, and at the other platforms sheds may be erected at the small cost of Rupees 50 each, at which rate the amount for the required number of sheds will be Rupees 300, a little more or less.

Exd. J. Wright.

From A. P. HODGSON, Esq., Acting Collector of South Canara, to W. HUDLESTON, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue. dated Mangalore, 29th September 1862, No. 101.

1. With reference to paragraph 7 of the Miscellaneous Circular of the Board of Revenue, No. 4,487, I have the honor to inform you that salt in this District, is not stored in heaqs on platforms, but in Cotars, where it is well protected from the weather.

2. All the Salt Depots of this District being situated in villages, there appears to be no necessity for the Government providing accommodation for the trades who resort to them to purchase salt.

Exd. J. Wright.

From G. A. BALLARD, Esq., Collector of Malabar, to W. HUDLESTON, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Wandur, 11th August 1862, No. 166.

Miscellaneous.

1. I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of the Board's Circular, No. 4,487, dated 12th ultimo.

2. As the Board are aware no manufacture of salt is carried on in Malabar.

3. The salt required for sale is obtained from Bombay merchants. The Gollas generally afford ample room for its stowage as well at for the accommodation of purchasers.

Dated 5th June 1862, No. 1,236.

4. Under these circumstances, paragraph 7 of the Orders of Government embodied in the Circular under acknowledgment will not apply to this District.

Exd. J. Wright.

No. 5,622.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE, dated 8th September 1863.

Read again the following replies to the Board's Miscellaneous Circular dated 12th July 1862, No. 4,487 :—

No. 4,140, From Ganjam dated 23rd June, in Cons. 2nd July 1863, No. 111.
„ 7,854, „ Vizagapatam dated 4th, in Cons. 10th December 1862, No. 991.
„ 1,912, „ do. dated 21st, in Cons. 30th March 1863, No. 130.
„ 2,707, „ Godavery District dated 27th April, in Cons. 4th May 1863, No. 87.
„ 4,741, „ Kistna District dated 25th, in Cons. 30th July 1862, No. 167.
„ 7,843, „ Nellore dated 6th, in Cons. 11th December 1862, No. 309.
„ 301, „ do. dated 14th, in Cons. 19th January 1863, No. 6.
„ 4,705, „ Madras dated [illegible], in Cons. 29th July 1862, No. 262.
„ 5,015, „ South Arcot dated 8th, in Cons. 11th August 1862, No. 155.
„ 4,953, „ Tanjore dated 5th, in Cons. 8th August 1862, No. 299.
„ 4,885, „ Madura dated 30th July, in Cons. 5th August 1862, No. 153.
„ 7,468, „ Tinnevelly 17th, in Cons. 24th November 1862, No. 491.
„ 6,356, „ South Canara 29th September, in Cons. 4th October 1862, No. 101.
„ 5,157, „ Malabar 11th, in Cons. 16th August 1862, No. 166.

1. Resolved that the above letters be submitted to Government with reference to paragraph 7 of the Government Order dated 5th June 1862, No. 1,236.

2. It will be observed that all the Officers to whom the question has been referred are of opinion that the erection of rough thatched sheds over the Salt platforms would be much more expensive, and, at the same time, a less effective protection than the system at present prevailing of covering each heap separately with thatch or mud.

3. The Board are not prepared to recommend any material alteration in the present system, which, as remarked by Mr. Forbes of Ganjam, is characterized by economy and simplicity. They much doubt whether better results would be obtained by a more expensive and elaborate plan for protecting salt in store. At the same time they consider that the mode of covering the heaps in particular Di tricts may be improved. There is little doubt that for the purpose the most effectual protection which [illegible] be devised is that combination of thatch or leaves with mud which Mr. Forbes alludes to in the close of paragraph 7 of his letter.

4. The want of accommodation for Salt traders does not appear to be generally felt, but in such places as accommodation may be required, the Board would recommend that sanction be granted for the erection of sheds, at a maximum cost of Rupees 50 each, as proposed by the Collector of Tinnevelly. The Board highly approve of Mr. Dykes's suggestion that Casuarina trees be planted in the vicinity of all the pans. These trees take root very easily in a sandy soil, and in a few years topes might be raised which, if planted in the vicinity of the wells, would be an admirable shelter both for the purchasers and their beasts of burden.

5. The improved platforms suggested by Mr. Forbes in paragraphs 4 and 9 of his letter might be tried, the Board think, with decided advantage, when new platforms are about to be erected ; and the Board propose to circulate these paragraphs of Mr. Forbes's letter, as well as those relating to an improved system of thatching the salt heaps, for general information, in order that the other Collectors may make in their Districts such improvements as may seem necessary.

6. The suggestion made by the Deputy Collector in charge of Salt in the Godavery District that masonry walls should be erected round the platforms would involve a very large outlay, and the Board consider that if the orders regarding the ingress to, and egress from, the pans, and platforms, are carefully attended to, such an expensive fence will not be required.

7. The Collector of South Arcot will be requested to report further upon the great disproportion which exists between the cost of covering salt heaps at the pans South of Cuddalore, and the charge made at Mercanum. He will be requested to state whether the outlay of 1 Rupee per garce for this purpose at the latter place is now borne by the manufacturers or by the Government.

(A true Extract.)

W. H. Caldwell

Sub-Secretary.

To J. D. Sim, Esq., Secretary to Government, R. D., with file of replies.

Copy to Collectors of Salt Districts.

Exd. J. Wright.

Collector's Proceedings of the Board of Revenue to Government R. D. dated 8th September 1863.

Rev. 2182/63.

Replies of Collector, for the Best mode of Protecting Salt in store.

R S Sum/62 N 59-60.

be fenced in
with aloe hedges
or in some other
economical way.
It is at the same
time easily
carried on.

I &c.

Fort St. George
18th Sept. 1863.

15 Copies to the Bd of Rev. Dept.
3 — Salt Genl
2 — Civil Paymasters

No 233 & 234.

Rec. 1863. Department.
Pro: of Govt for Sept.

No. 2182.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE.

Dated 8th September 1863.
Despatched 12 Do.
Received 14th —
R1-file.

No. 5,622.

Submitting the Collectors' replies to the Board's Circular, dated 12th July 1862, No. 4,487, with remarks on certain alterations suggested to be made in the Salt Platforms of the different Districts.

No 1716-18 Sept.
With an order

No. 1716.

The Bd agree with the Bd
that the present System
of protecting Salt Heaps
is on the whole the best.

The recommendations in
para 4 of the Bds proc. is
approved. Palmyra trees
can be planted where Casua
-rinas are not procurable.
or in preference to the latter
where materials for thatching
are not at hand.

With regard to para 6
that the Pans & not merely th
Platforms should be all