M.R.O. 14—13,000—27-9-24.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 2181 Press ~~Mis.~~

35-36

Dated 2—12—~~19~~1863

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department, 2nd December 1863.

No. 35. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 24th November 1863:—

Read the following letter from J. SILVER, Esq., Collector of Tinnevelly, to W. HUDLESTON, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Tinnevelly, 14th November 1863, No. 436.

SIR,

I have the honor to forward for the information of the Board copy of a letter from the Superintendent Pearl Banks, dated 12th November, reporting on the further examination of the Pearl Banks. I have called for further information regarding laying up the Guard boats.

From G. A. PHIPPS, Esq., Superintendent of Pearl Banks, to J. SILVER, Esq., Collector of Tinnevelly, dated Tuticorin, 12th November 1863, No. 71.

SIR,

1. I have the honor to inform you that, in company with the Jaditalaven, I have been engaged during the past few days continuing the examination of the Pearl Banks, the weather having been particularly favorable has enabled us to make the examination as complete as possible, of which the following is the report.

2. On the morning of the 9th, we left Tuticorin in the "Emily" having the "Pearl" and one canoe in company, and one Diver on board of each vessel, the first bank we proceeded to was the

Auttombado Par.—On this the Diver reported plenty of young Oysters nearly free from Sooram, this bank is of fair size and it appears to be well stocked. Should it continue free from Sooram it will no doubt in time yield a fishery; from this we proceeded to the

Pausee Par.—This was partly covered with Sooram, but the Divers found no young Oysters; the

Pattari Par was next examined, on this the Divers found a very few young Oysters.

Sayetonbado Par.—This was found partly covered with Sooram.

Vadaonbado Par.—This was found blank.

Puleepoontettoo Par.—Blank.

Cannapoontettoo Par.—Blank.

This completed the Tuticorin banks, and in the evening we anchored at Punnicoil; on the morning of the 10th we again got under weigh and proceeded to the banks off Punnicoil; the first we examined was the

Selttan Par.—This was found blank.

Rajavookoo Syppeeporitha Par.—On this the Diver reported some young Oysters mixed with Sooram.

Codamuthee Par was next examined, and found to be covered with young Oysters mixed with a little Sooram.

Santa Codamuthee Par.—This was found blank also; the

Poodoo Par.—Blank.

Kadian Par.—Blank.

Kanava Par.—Blank.

In the evening we again anchored at Punnicoil, and at daylight on the 11th proceeded to the Trichendoor banks; the

Velango Karovel Par.—This Bank was examined during the last month, it is still, I regret to say, in the same unsatisfactory state.

Poondota Par.—This was found blank.

Santomi Covilpodita Par.—When this bank was examined in April last, it was partly covered with young Oysters free from Sooram, it is now nearly blank, the Divers having brought up only one Oyster of about three years old; from this we returned to Tuticorin.

3. In the present unsatisfactory state of the Pearl Banks which makes the prospect of further Pearl Fisheries very uncertain, I would beg to state that, in my opinion, no bed of young Oysters can be considered safe until it has reached the age of three years, from the examination made this year it will be observed that there are now only two banks that contain sufficient young Oysters to encourage hopes of a Fishery, and these are not quite free from Sooram, under these circumstances I beg to recommend that the Guard Boat Establishment be reduced, the Boats "Pearl" and "Edith" being either laid up or made over to any other Department requiring such vessels, the "Emily" being retained for protecting the banks and conducting the yearly examination during the south-west monsoon, this vessel may also be laid up.

1. Submitted for the information of Government.

2. The Board have already addressed the Superintendent of Marine as to the employment of the Schooners, but await the Collector's further report.

3. Under the circumstances stated in Captain Phipps' report, attention should now be specially given to the formation of nurseries, to preventing the banks from being disturbed, or poached, and to such arrangements for the Chank Fishery now under Amani as may afford employment for the Divers and prevent their abandoning the profession or locality.

No. 36. ORDER THEREON, 2nd December 1863, No. 2,181.

The Government await the information called for by the Board, paragraph 3 of whose Proceedings should be attended to by the Collector.

(True Extract.)

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

To the Board of Revenue.

Exd. S. T. Augustin.

Rev. 1863 Vol. 1st
Pros: of Govt for Dec. No. 2866.

Proceedings of the
Board of Revenue

Dated 24th
Desp. 25 } Novr 1863.
Rec. 25th
P. 1.

Sec. Bd of Rev. d/ 17 Dec. 63
L. No. 3035 & Encs.

Submitting with remarks letter from the Collector of Tinnevelly reporting on the further examination of the Pearl Banks. 19/2/61.

The Govt await the information called for by the Board - para 3 of whose proceedings should be attended to by the Collector. Fort St. Geo: 2 Dec. 63.

Copy in a Letter to Govt dd 2nd Dec. 1863 No. 129.

No. 35 to 36.

27 Nov 1863

Copies to the Bd of Rev. & Collr