M.R.O. 14—18,000—27-9-24.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 300 Press
Mis.

157 - 158

Dated 10 - 2 - ~~19~~ 1863

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Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
10th February 1863.

No. 157. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 13th January 1863: —

Read letter from G. L. MORRIS, Esq., Acting Collector of Tanjore, to W. HUDLESTON, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, Chepauk, dated Vallam, 2nd December 1862, No. 454: —

SIR,

1. I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of the Board's Proceedings, dated 10th October 1862, No. 6,791, requesting my opinion on the subject of Mirasidars being entitled under Regulation I of 1805 to compensation on manufacture of Salt at the usual places being suspended.

2. It appears to me that the remarks of the Board in their Proceedings dated 13th May 1858, No. 1,694, to the effect "that where from falling off of sales and diversion of trade, "manufacture had ceased in the ordinary course of events, compensation would not be claim-"able," are perfectly sound and reasonable. Section V of Regulation I of 1805 only speaks of compensation being made where any person's interests, may be fairly proved to be affected by suspension or limitation of manufacture: if therefore it can be shown that sales have ceased from diversion of trade, or that Salt Pans can be converted in Nanjah or Punjah land at any particular places, I am of opinion that compensation cannot then and there be claimed.

3. The Pans which I proposed abolishing in my letter dated 16th August 1862, No. 315, were:—

Kilakarai.....	Neidavásal Division.
Tannampatnam.....	
Kadikadu.....	
Tamarankottai.....	Adrampatam do.
Magalankottai.....	
Shembai.....	Sendalai do.
Korukan.....	
Sendalai.....	

4. On receipt of the Board's Proceedings, I directed my Salt Deputy Collector, Mr. D'Monte, to examine and report which of the Salt Pans about to be abolished could be converted into Nanjah or Punjah, and from his report I find that the Pans at the three stations of Kilakarai Tannampatnam, and Kadikádu in Neidavásal Division, cannot only be so converted, but that the owners of them generally have no objection to the change. I think, therefore, that the question of compensation as regards these pans may be considered as set at rest.

5. With reference to the pans at Tamarankottai and Magalankottai in the Adrampatam Division, I am obliged to confess that I think some compensation would have to be given if they were abolished. Sales can still be effected there, and the Salt manufactured is of superior description, whilst the pans cannot be converted into any other profitable purpose. I therefore propose in modification of the plan laid down in Section 18 of my letter of the 16th August to retain these two stations. Tamaramkottai which is quite close to Tambikanallavankottai being amalgamated with it and thus costing the Government nothing extra in the way of establishment, and Magalankottai being left as it is. The Adrampatnam Division will consist therefore of Tambikanallavankottai, Adrampatam and Magalankottai.

6. Respecting the pans at Shembai, Korukan and Sendalai, I do not see any difficulty. Mr. D'Monte reports to me that, for some time past, Salt cannot be sold at these stations, unless traders are compelled to resort there by the closing of the other Depôts; and that at present we have some five years' consumption on hand. It is true that the pans cannot be converted into any other profitable purpose, but as trade has completely ceased, and the Mirasidars would be quite at a loss how to sell the Salt made here, even if there was no monopoly, I cannot perceive any good grounds for granting compensation.

7. The Board will perceive from what I have already stated, that according to the modified plan proposed in this letter, no compensation is in my opinion allowable at all. As, however, they might wish to know what would be the sum which would have to be paid, if compensation

were given in each case where pans were proposed to be abolished in my letter of the 16th August last, I have thought it right to submit the following Statement:—

						RS.	A.	P.
Neidavásal Division.	Kilakarai consisting of	300	pans at	Rupees	10-0-0 a pan...	3,000	0	0
	Tannampatnam.....	272	,,		12-8-0 ,,	3,400	0	0
	Kadikadu.....	262	,,		10-0-0 ,,	2,620	0	0
Adrampatam Division.	Tamarankottai... ...	1,853	,,		16-10-8 ,,	30,883	5	4
	Magalankottai	843	,,		15-12-0 ,,	13,277	4	0
Sendalai Division.	Shembai	275	,,		3-8-0 ,,	972	8	0
	Korukan.....	793	,,		4-0-0 ,,	3,312	0	0
	Sendalai...	1,859	,,		4-4-11 ,,	8,007	4	1
					Total.....	65,472	5	5

The rate per pan in the foregoing Statement has been fixed according to the selling prices prevailing at present.

8. In conclusion I beg to add that local usage in this District is altogether opposed to any compensation being granted, and that since the year 1825 thirty-four Salt manufacturing stations have been abolished, but no compensation has ever been thought of, much less given.

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

1. Resolved that the above letter be submitted to Government, with reference to their Proceedings under date 29th October 1862, No. 2,308.

2. The Acting Collector is of opinion that a slight modification of his proposal as brought forward in his letter dated 16th August 1862, submitted to Government with Board's Proceedings under date 10th October 1862, No. 6,791, will obviate the necessity of the grant of any compensation for the abolition of certain of the Salt Pans in his District.

3. Mr. Morris' original proposal was to abolish three sets of pans in the Neidavasal Division, two sets of pans in the Adrampatam Division, and three sets of pans in the Sendalai Division. He now proposes to retain the manufacture at the pans situated at Tamarakottai and Magalankottai in the Adrampatam Division, those at the former place being amalgamated with the Pambikanall Avanakottai pans which are within a mile's distance.

4. The Board support Mr. Morris' plan as they observe from his former report that there was an average demand for Maunds 40,000 at Tamarankottai, that the Salt manufactured at Magalankottai was white and pure, and that the sales there averaged about the same as at Tamarankottai. They also concur with him in considering that the owners of the pans proposed to be abolished in the Neidavasal and Sendalai Divisions cannot fairly claim any compensation, as it appears that while the pans situated in the one division are capable of being turned to a profitable purpose as Nunjah lands, the[illegible] the other have ceased to be of value as there is no natural demand for Salt in that neighbourhood. The Board have the less hesitation in arriving at this conclusion as Mr. Morris reports that the local usage of the District is entirely opposed to the grant of any compensation in such cases.

5. The Board observe, however, that in paragraph 7 of his letter Mr. Morris puts the selling price of the pans proposed to be abolished in the Sendalai Division at rates varying from Rupees 3-8-0 to Rupees 4 4-11, and they are somewhat at a loss to reconcile the fact of these pans having a sale value at all, with Mr. Morris' remarks that the trade at them had completely ceased. Possibly this sale value may be the result of the fixed sales of Salt at these pans by the closing of other depôts, but if so, selling prices, so obtained, could not be fairly taken into account in granting compensation, and the practice of thus forcibly diverting the natural course of trade appears to the Board to be most objectionable.

6. The accompanying Statement will shew the saving of establishment which will be effected under the new arrangement amounting to Rupees 5,736, or including the Police guard to Rupees 10,875.

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

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
10th February 1863.

Statement showing the financial result of the several Salt Divisions and Stations in the District of Tanjore.

Division.	Stations.	Proposed Establishment. To be allowed if all the existing Pans and Depôts are retained.	To be allowed if only the pans and Depôts proposed by the Board are kept up.	Saving.
Neidavásal.	Division Establishment	1,836	1,836	.....
	Kelakarai B	360	.....	360
	Tannapatam B	480	.....	480
	Kadikadu B	480	.....	480
	Vadapathi	480	480	.....
	Tenpathi	672	672	.....
	Kelaiyur	672	672	.....
	Sundrapadi	2,592	2,592	.....
Negapatam.	Division Establishment	672	672	.....
	Kovilput			
	Poottoor	1,092	1,092	.....
	Akraputhur			
	Pappakovil and Authanapett	1,644	1,644	.....
Vadaraniem A.	Division Establishment	360	360	.....
	Vadaraniem	1,836	1,836	.....
Adrampatam.	Division Establishment	972	972	.....
	Tambakanallavankottai and Tamarankottai	360	360	.....
	Adrampatam	672	672	.....
	Magalankottai	2,904	.....	2,904
Sendalai B.	Division Establishment	360	.....	360
	Shembai B	672	.....	672
	Korukan B	480	.....	480
	Sendalai B	1,836	1,836	.....
Arasangiri.	Division Establishment	792	792	.....
	Sembaimakdevi			
	Kuttumavadi	672	672	.....
	Ayapatam	360	360	.....
	Arasangiri			
		23,256	17,520	5,736
	Probable cost of Police Guards.....	20,832	15,693	5,139
	Total including Police Guard.....	44,088	33,213	10,875

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

No. 158. ORDER THEREON, 10th February 1863, No. 300.

1. The Governor in Council approves of the concentration of Salt Pans now proposed.

2. Under these arrangements the three Pans of Kilakaray, Tannapatam and Kadikadu in the north will be closed. The manufacture of these places is small, the quality of the Salt inferior, and the merchants have to pass the other pans of the division to reach them. Their abolition under these circumstances is manifestly expedient, and it is stated that at the two next stations an ample supply of superior Salt can be ensured by converting an intermediate tract of waste into Salt beds.

3. Three other pans will also under these orders be closed, viz., those of Shembai, Koruken and Sandalay, forming the Sandalay Division. The Salt at these places is not good, and can only be sold by compelling the traders to resort to them by closing the other depôts.

pply hitherto drawn from them can hereafter be made good from the adjacent stations. can be no doubt therefore of the propriety of abolishing these pans.

The question of compensation remains to be disposed of. It has never been the usage t it, and the Collector states that "since 1825 thirty-four Salt manufacturing stations been abolished, but no compensation has ever been thought of, much less given." The land ed by the three pans abolished in the northern division can be rendered fit for culti- and the owners are said to have no objection to the change. The southern pans cannot ught under cultivation, but they have lost their trade from natural causes. Under these stances no compensation is necessary for the closed pans in Tanjore. Any new pans the Collector may open either to keep up his stock or to make good the quantity hitherto from the pans now abolished, should be allowed only on the distinct understanding that pensation will be granted if they are closed.

raph 13, Collector's Report, th August 1862.

5. The Government are not satisfied of the necessity of permanently retaining the Kovilpat station. The average outturn l to be only 2,666 Indian Maunds, and there can scarcely be any difficulty in providing the next pan, Sandrapady. The Board will instruct the Collector accordingly. Mean- the Kovilpat pans will be retained.

. The Government presume that some definite orders have since been passed on the ing of the pans referred to in paragraph 14 of Mr. Morris' Report of the 16th August

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

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P.C. No. 375-376
29-10-62

No. 157-158

Revenue 1868 Dec 18.
Pro: of Govt for February.

Ag. 300.

Pro: of the Madras Govt.
Dated 4 February 1868.

Pro: of the Board of Revenue of 19 March
Con 1119 in Pro.

Abolition of certain
Salt Pans in Tanjore ordered.