M.R.O. 14—13,000—27-9-24.

# MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

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## Government of Madras.

Revenue **DEPARTMENT.**

G.O. No. 811 Press ~~Mis.~~

116-116

Dated 11-8-~~1918~~ 1921

***Not to be folded or roughly handled***

## *Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department, 11th May* 1863.

No. 115. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 8th April 1863:—

Read the following letter from J. SILVER, Esq., Collector of Tinnevelly, to W. HUDLESTON, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, Fort Saint George, dated Tinnevelly, 28th March 1863, No. 129.

SIR,

I have the honor to forward for the information of the Board and Government copy of a letter from Mr. G. A. Phipps, Superintendent of Pearl Banks, reporting the result of his visit to the Ceylon Pearl Fishery at Aripo. I was desirous he should see it, as he might gain some hints from the manner of conducting the Fishery there, that would be useful to us on this side the Gulf; and from this report and a long unofficial letter Mr. Phipps wrote to me immediately on his return, I think we have every reason to be satisfied with our own arrangements.

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From G. A. PHIPPS, Esq., Superintendent of Pearl Banks, to J. SILVER, Esq., Collector of Tinnevelly, dated Tuticorin, 26th March 1863, No. 23.

SIR,

1. I have the honor to inform you that as directed I proceeded to the Aripo Pearl Fishery in the Guard Schooner "Emily" having left Tuticorin on the morning of Thursday the 12th instant, and arrived at Aripo on Friday the 13th. I remained there until the following Wednesday when I again set sail and arrived at Tuticorin on Friday morning the 20th; during my stay at the Fishery I attended the sale of Oysters and also the Kotto; the manner of conducting the auction sales is similar to that pursued here, the Kotto is however managed differently, but with no advantage that I could see, a larger Establishment being entertained than is customary with us, and the work exceedingly complicated; a number of various forms being used that while giving very much extra employment were of little or no use. It is customary also in Ceylon to place the quantity of Oysters brought in each boat in separate heaps, by doing this none of the heaps contain an even number, and hence after the sale a large amount of counting has then to take place, here we make the heaps of Oysters all in even number of 1, 2, 5, 8 or 10,000, and as we only sell even thousands, the party takes a heap or heaps containing the quantity he has purchased without further counting.

2. On Monday the 16th I proceeded to the Pearl Banks, the work there was also conducted exactly similar to the plan pursued here.

3. The sanitary arrangements were also similar, though more extensive than is usual here. Water of which there is a large quantity obtained from wells close to the sea shore is a very great advantage, and adds much to the comfort of the people attending.

4. From what I saw I am of opinion that the plan pursued here is preferable, and has the advantage of being equally as correct, much simpler, the cost of Establishment considerably less, and the arrangements in general more convenient for the parties attending.

5. As the Ceylon Pearl Fishery is always held at Aripo, the Government have erected houses for the Officers in charge of the Fishery and also barracks for the Troops, these have cost a large sum, and being permanent buildings are of course more comfortable than the temporary huts put up here.

(True Copy.)

(Signed) J. SILVER, *Collector.*

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Ordered to be submitted for the information of Government.

(A true Copy and Extract.)

(Signed) W. HUDLESTON, *Secretary.*

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No. 116. ORDER THEREON, 11th May 1863, No. 811.

Ordered to be recorded.

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

Rev= 1863 Octr.
Pro: of Govt for May.
No. 810

Proceedings of the Board of Revenue.

811

Dated 8th
Desp. 8
Rec. 9th } April 1863.
E. 1 Ol.

No.

Submitting letter from the Collr. of Tinnevelly forwarding copy of one from the superintendent of Pearl Banks reporting the result of his visit to the Ceylon Pearl Fishery at Aripo.

No. 811.

No. 115 & 116.

RECORDED.

11th May 1863.

14 Copies to the Board of Revenue with one enclosure