M.R.O. 14—13,000—27-9-24

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue **DEPARTMENT.**

G.O. No. 2010 Press ~~Mis.~~

14-15

Dated 1—11— 1866.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department, 1st November 1864.

No. 14. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 21st October 1864, No. 6,944 :—

Read the following letter from C. W. READE, Esq., Collector of South Arcot, to W. HUDLESTON, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Cuddalore, 13th September 1864, 177.

1. In acknowledging the Board's Proceedings of the 7th instant, No. 5,834, I have the honor to state, in reference to the remarks in paragraph 8, that owing to the unsatisfactory condition of the weighing machines, and to the objections raised by the French Government, I had already instructed the Deputy Collector in charge of the Department to deliver the salt at the ratio of 424 Mercals measurement per each garce of 120 Maunds.

2. The Governor of Pondicherry claimed this arrangement according to a previous correspondence on the subject; and as the machines proved so obviously incorrect, I had no hesitation in delivering the salt by measurement, as above stated. Besides, according to the strict terms of the Convention, we are bound to supply the salt at the rate, and in the same manner as we receive it into store; and the salt heretofore delivered to the French Government has been old salt, which was received by us at the rate of 424 Mercals per each garce of 120 Maunds; and under these circumstances it is clear that there was no alternative than to deliver it to them at the same ratio of measurement.

3. I am of opinion that for all practical purposes the weighing machines furnished from the Mint are utterly useless, and indeed ought to be put aside; and until some more sure and accurate machine is invented we should, I think, revert to the old system of measurement in the sale of salt.

4. I have no hesitation in stating my belief that during the last year the traders and purchasers of salt have been considerable losers through these machines, and that the Government are chargeable (of course very unintentionally) with having sold with short weight; and it is only surprising that, ere this, the inaccuracy and consequent loss have not been discovered by buyers, as well that the fact has not affected the sales, or been the subject of a general outcry.

5. In my instructions to the Salt Deputy Collector, I have insisted that the greatest care should be taken to see that there be no continuance of this very unsatisfactory state of things; and I have already forbidden the use of the machines, and authorized a resort to measurement when these weighing instruments are in any way defective, or where a full standard equivalent to measurement is not insured.

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1. Submitted for the information of Government in continuation of the Board's Proceedings quoted by the Collector, which are now before them.

2. The Board take this opportunity of informing Government that the Mint Master has effected some improvements in the weighing machines, which will they hope obviate the objections now made to these machines.

3. It will however probably be necessary to call in all the machines already issued for alteration and correction.

No. 15. ORDER THEREON, 1st November 1864, No. 2,010.

Separate Revenue, No. 2.
Salt.

Ordered to lie over pending the receipt of Mr. Clarke's report called for in the Order of Government, dated 22nd September 1864, No. 1,740.

(True Extract.)

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

To T. Clarke, Esq.

Exd. S. T. Augustin.

No. 6,944.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE, dated 21st October 1864.

Read the following letter from C. W. READE, Esq., Collector of South Arcot, to W. HUDLESTON, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Cuddalore, 13th September 1864, No. 177 :—

1. In acknowledging the Board's Proceedings of the 7th instant, No. 5,834, I have the honor to state, in reference to the remarks in paragraph 8, that owing to the unsatisfactory condition of the weighing machines, and to the objections raised by the French Government, I had already instructed the Deputy Collector in charge of the Department to deliver the salt at the ratio of 424 Mercals measurement per each garce of 120 Maunds.

2. The Governor of Pondicherry claimed this arrangement according to a previous correspondence on the subject; and as the machines proved so obviously incorrect, I had no hesitation in delivering the salt by measurement, as above stated. Besides, according to the strict terms of the Convention, we are bound to supply the salt at the rate, and in the same manner as we receive it into store; and the salt heretofore delivered to the French Government has been old salt, which was received by us at the rate of 424 Mercals per each garce of 120 Maunds; and under these circumstances it is clear that there was no alternative than to deliver it to them at the same ratio of measurement.

3. I am of opinion that for all practical purposes the weighing machines furnished from the Mint are utterly useless, and indeed ought to be put aside; and until some more sure and accurate machine is invented we should, I think, revert to the old system of measurement in the sale of salt.

4. I have no hesitation in stating my belief that during the last year the traders and purchasers of salt have been considerable losers through these machines, and that the Government are chargeable (of course very unintentionally) with having sold with short weight; and it is only surprising that, ere this, the inaccuracy and consequent loss have not been discovered by buyers, as well that the fact has not affected the sales, or been the subject of a general outcry.

5. In my instructions to the Salt Deputy Collector, I have insisted that the greatest care should be taken to see that there be no continuance of this very unsatisfactory state of things; and I have already forbidden the use of the machines, and authorized a resort to measurement when these weighing instruments are in any way defective, or where a full standard equivalent to measurement is not insured.

———

1. Submitted for the information of Government in continuation of the Board's Proceedings quoted by the Collector, which are now before them.

2. The Board take this opportunity of informing Government that the Mint Master has effected some improvements in the weighing machines, which will they hope obviate the objections now made to these machines.

3. It will however probably be necessary to call in all the machines already issued for alteration and correction.

(A true Copy and Extract,)

L Hudleston

Secretary.

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

Copy to C. W. Reade, Esq., Collector of South Arcot.

Exd. J. Wright.

No. 22nd September 1864 No. 3184 39

Reported to England
per 4th Nov. 1865 No. 13. Sept Rev

Revenue 1864. Department.
Proc. of Govt for abot.

No. 2793

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE,

Dated 21st October 1864.
Despd 24th do
Recd 25th do

No. 6,944.

Submitting for information letter from the Collector of South Arcot stating that owing to the unsatisfactory condition of the Salt Weighing Machines instructions have been issued for the delivery of Salt at the ratio of 424 Mercals measurement per each garce of 120 maunds.

No. 2010-Thor
Withdrawn

No. 2010.

Ordered to lie over
pending the receipt of Mr. Clarke's
report called for in the order
of Govt dated 22nd September
1864, No. 1740.

Fort St. George
1st. Oct. 1864.
By
Clarke Sept. Asst. Sec.