M.R.O. 14—13,000—27-9-24

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue **DEPARTMENT.**

G.O. No. 2942 — Press ~~Mis.~~

532.535

Dated 28 — 11. 1865.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

No. 554. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 24th November 1865.

Read the following letter from the Sub-Collector of the Madras District, to the Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Saidapet, 4th November 1865 :—

1. In compliance with the instructions contained in the Government Proceedings, dated 2nd October last, paragraph 46, I have the honor to state that the arrangements suggested by Government seem to me the most suitable and most advantageous that can be made.

2. The divided salt charge worked badly; discrepancies of all kinds existed; and petitions regarding indulgences granted in one charge, and *vice versâ* were constantly being presented. I would certainly advocate that the entire control of the whole Salt Department should be entrusted to one Deputy, and I think in Tinnevelly no European constitution could stand the work and exposure. An efficient Native Deputy might do the work well enough, provided he had no other charge, and provided he felt that the faithful and zealous conduct of this doubtless disagreeable branch of the Government service would entitle him after a few years to the more pleasant duties of a "General Deputy."

3. As regards the Head Assistant's charge, he should certainly live at Tuticorin; this was the arrangement in former years, and should be again introduced. The number of European merchants, the increasing trade, and the proximity to the large and important Etiapuram Zemindary, all make it necessary that a Covenanted Officer in rank not less than a Head Assistant should be located at this port. The Talooks of Ootapedarum and Tenkarai, in addition to the Tuticorin town, the Customs, and the Etiapuram Zemindary would give the Head Assistant ample and important work, all near at hand and concentrated. Tuticorin is not a pleasant residence; there is no water for irrigation, and but little fit to drink; if, however, Major Horsley's well-considered project of erecting an anicut over the Tambrapoorni at Strivygoontam were carried out, the whole face of the country would be changed, and Tuticorin would be as well supplied with water as the residents could desire; this would rapidly increase its status and prosperity.

4. Finally, with reference to the General Deputy, it would be actually cruel to fix his head quarters at Strivalipoottoor; there is every thing to make it hateful, and nothing to make it bearable, even for a temporary residence. Kovilputty, on the other hand, is high, open, and healthy; it is, moreover, on the high road, and not too far for the Strivalipoottoor petitioners, and parties in Magisterial and Revenue cases to appear before the Deputy Collector in charge of that Talook and Sattoor, in which latter division Kovilputty is situated. The only difficulty is about a house; but this might be arranged if it were finally determined that this should be the General Deputy's permanent station.

Extract of a letter from the Collector of Tinnevelly, to the Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated 11th November 1865, No. 423.

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"5. Paragraph 45.—With regard to the question of re-uniting the two Salt charges under one Officer, as before, in place of adhering to the arrangement sanctioned by Government in their Proceedings of 6th December 1862, No. 7,994, the matter has been so fully discussed in the various

Proceedings of the Government and Board, that there is hardly any thing further to add. What is termed "bad selection" of Salt servants may, in some measure, be owing to the unpopularity of the duty. Able men would rather serve on lower salaries in other Departments, than undergo hardship and discomfort at twice the salary in the Salt Department. This is doubtless a serious drawback to its efficiency, only to be counteracted by keeping the Department distinct, and giving early promotion to the more able of the servants in it. There are undoubtedly advantages in the Department being under one head, in respect of administrative efficiency; an able officer, if secured and retained, would naturally direct all his energies to the improvement of a Department upon which his official reputation solely depended, and would take care to retain only such servants as were efficient, and prevent the introduction of unqualified subordinates. The utilization of the spare time of a Salt Deputy in other dissimilar duties, would not be economically purchased at the expense of the neglect of his own Department, and Mr. Clarke is of opinion that such has been the result of the division of the salt charge, and its union with other duties.

"6. Should Deputy Collector Ramiah be directed by Government to resume the sole charge of the Salt Department, then the Talook of Tenkarai, now under his charge, united with Ootapedarum in which Tuticorin is situated, with the Sea Customs, would again form a charge, being either retained by Mr. Underwood, or made the charge of the Head Assistant, who is now stationed at Strivaliputur in charge of the two northernmost Talooks of Strivalipoottoor and Sattoor. Both officers are qualified for either charge, and the change could be made, if desired, either at present, or from the commencement of next year, as Government may determine.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) R. A. DALYELL,
Acting Secretary.

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1. The foregoing letter, together with paragraphs 5 and 6 of the Collector of Tinnevelly's letter, dated 11th November 1865, No. 423, will be submitted to Government, with reference to paragraph 45 of their Order, under date 2nd October 1865, No. 2,379.

2. The Board need hardly observe that they have always been of opinion that the arrangement of the charges, as proposed by Mr. Banbury, and to which Mr. Wedderburn does not object, is the best for the public interests. They recommend that the change be immediately carried out, leaving the residence of the Deputy Collector for future decision, after report on the nature of the accommodation available at Kovilputty and Strivalipoottoor.

No. 555. ORDER THEREON, 28th November 1865, No. 2,942.

Miscellaneous.

1. Ordered accordingly that the following re-distribution of charges in the Tinnevelly District, be carried out at once :—

Officer.	*Charge.*
Head Assistant Collector.	Ootapedarum and Tenkarai Talooks, including Tuticorin town. The Sea Customs of the District, and the Etiapuram Zemindary. Head Quarters at Tuticorin.
Deputy Collector. (Mr. Underwood.)	Strivalipoottoor and Sattoor Talooks. Head Quarters, Kovilputty.
Deputy Collector. (Ramiah.)	The Salt Department. Head Quarters, Tuticorin.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
28th November 1865.

2. The Government have no doubt that the above arrangement will conduce to improved administration and general convenience.

3. The question of taking up Colonel Horsley's project for an anicut across the Tambrapoorni river will be considered in the Department of Public Works.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) W. HUDLESTON,
Acting Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue.
,, the Accountant General.
,, the Department Public Works.

Exd. S. T. Augustin.

Extract of a letter from the Collector of Tinnevelly, to the Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated 11th November 1865 No 1423.

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Para 5. Para 45. With regard to the question of re-uniting the two Salt Charges under one Officer, as before, in place of adhering to the arrangement sanctioned by Government in their Proceedings of 6th December 1862 No 7994, the matter has been so fully discussed in the various Proceedings of the Government and Board, that there is hardly any thing further to add. What is termed "bad selection" of Salt Servants, may, in some measure, be owing to the unpopularity of the duty. able men would rather serve on lower salaries in other Departments than undergo hardship and discomfort at twice the salary in the Salt Department. This is doubtless a serious drawback to its efficiency, only to be counteracted by keeping the Departments distinct, and giving early promotion to the more able of the Servants

servants in it. There are undoubtedly advantages in the Department being under one head, in respect of administrative efficiency. an able Officer, if secured and retained, would naturally direct all his energies to the improvement of a Department upon which his Official reputation solely depended, and would take care to retain only such Servants as were efficient, and prevent the introduction of unqualified Subordinates. The utilization of the spare time of a Salt Deputy in other, dissimilar duties, would not be economically purchased, at the expense of the neglect of his own Department, and Mr Clarke is of opinion that such has been the result of the division of the Salt charge and its union with other duties.

6. Should Deputy Collector Ramiah be directed by Government to resume the sole charge of the Salt Department, then the Tuluq of Tenkarrai now under his charge, united with Ettapedaram in which Tuticorin is situated, with the Sea

Sea Customs, would again form a charge, being either retained by Mr Underwood, or made the charge of the Head Assistant, who is now stationed at Streevilliputtoor in charge of the two Northernmost Taluqs of Streevilliputtoor and Suttoor. Both Officers are qualified for either charge, and the change could be made, if desired, either at present, or from the commencement of next Year, as Government may determine.

(True Extract)

J. D. Inglis
Acting Secretary

Capt W Ramaswamy Sastry

Rev= 3389/66.

Enclosure in Proceed:
=ings of the Board of
Revenue to A:- Secretary
to Govt:- Re:- D, dated
24:- Nov:- 1865. No:-

Extract of a letter
from the Collr:- of
Tinevelly to the Acting
Secretary to the Board
of Revenue dated 11:-
Nov:- 1865.- No:- 423.-
regarding Salt works.-

Read & Recorded
12 Dec 1865

With enclosures & enforcing
administration & general
convenience.

The question of taking
up Col Strachey's project for
an Anicut across the
Tambrapurni river should
be considered in the Dept. of
Public Works.

28th June/65.

11 Revd. Sir. D. of Wks
6 Accts. Gen. S
2 Supt. Public Works S

1-6-23 III

Rev: 1865 Departt:
Recs: of Govt Forgings
No 3389.

Proceedings of the
Board of Revenue

Dated 24th
Desp. 24 } November 1865
Rec'd 24 }
E.I.

No

from Out Stations Dumps
No 3497

Recommending
certain changes in Establt
charge of Limerick
District.

No 5545 5552

Written Order
No 2942 - 28 Nov

Q 24 Nov.