

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 579

Press
~~Mis.~~

270.271

Dated

16 - 3 - 1865.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
16th March 1865.*

No. 270. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 17th February 1865, No. 954:—

Read again letter from the Collector of Ganjam, dated 4th February 1864, recorded in the Board's Proceedings, dated 12th March 1864, No. 1,536.

Read also the following letter from E. B. FOORD, Esq., Acting Collector of Ganjam, to W. HUDLESTON, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Russelcondah, 17th January 1865, No. 15:—

With reference to Board's Proceedings No. 1,536, dated 12th March last, and to the accompanying copy of a letter from the Deputy Collector in charge of the Salt Department, shewing the sales that have taken place at the Munsoorcottah salt pans for the last nine months, and setting forth reasons for discontinuing the manufacture of salt at that place, I have the honor to recommend that the pans be now permanently closed, and no more salt manufactured.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

From D. VENKATANARSINGA ROW, Deputy Collector in charge, Salt Department, to E. B. FOORD, Esq., Acting Collector of Ganjam, dated Nowpada, 7th January 1865, No. 2.

Months.	Maunds.
April 1864	1,367
May	2,007
June	2,624
July	3,914
August	1,017
September	1,568
October	900
November	415
December	710
	15,122

1. I beg to point out, in the margin, the sales at the Munsoorcottah salt pans during the last nine months.

2. Having been observed before commencing the manufacture in last year, that the sales here would fall, it was reported to the Collector, who ordered to discontinue the manufacture.

3. The quantity of salt manufactured in Fusly 1272 was 58,827 Maunds, of which 36,891 Maunds were consumed during the last eighteen months, leaving the remainder still in store.

4. There being whiter and lighter salt available at Ganjam and Itchapur, which are at a distance of twelve and sixteen miles respectively, the salt of the Munsoorcottah pans is not much valued by the traders.

5. At the present state of the sales it is to be inferred that some months more will elapse before the entire quantity of salt in store can be sold, unless some arrangements are made for earlier disposal.

6. During the current Fusly, the salt works in the District have been commenced early in the beginning of December, in order to form the reservoirs and beds on a new plan, with a view to improve the quality of salt, and most part of the works have been completed under my supervision. I would pay greater attention to the Munsoorcottah pans, to improve the quality of the salt if the manufacturers be willing to work, but they do not seem to be so, for the port of Gopaulpore is at a distance of half a mile from the pans, and when they find any exportation during the manufacturing season, they leave the works and go to the port to load the boats on contract, their hire varying between 4 and 6 Annas a day.

7. The manufacturers at these pans work at their own discretion, and not in accordance to the instructions given. The nature of the soil requires greater labor than at other places to make a better quality of salt, and the salt water also is not sufficiently available.

8. The sales have begun to fall since the weighing system has been introduced, because the salt here weighs heavier than that of Ganjam and Itchapur. If the salt manufactured in one year be sold in the next year, its weight would be 18 Seers less to every five Maunds, or 3½ Seers per Maund, and becomes lighter in the third year as it dries up.

9. Under these circumstances, I would not recommend the manufacture of any salt during the current year. I suppose that Mr. Forbes recommended to the Board to close these pans

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entirely, and if you are of the same opinion, I solicit that you would recommend the transfer of a portion of the establishment to the Itchapoor pans. The manufacture at Itchapoor will exceed 1,50,000 Maunds of salt during the current Fussy, and also the sales will be almost to the same extent, and the pans will assume the third class, as arranged by Mr. Pelly in his letter to Government, dated 16th April 1860, No. 213.

10. The present establishment of Itchapoor is on the footing of the fourth class.

(True Copy.)

(Signed) E. D. FOORD, Acting Collector.

1. The foregoing papers relate to the discontinuance of the manufacture and sale of salt at the Munsoorcottah pans in the Ganjam District.

2. The salt pans at this place were closed in 1826, but were re-opened at the end of 1860, on the recommendation of the Collector, Mr. Forbes, who then drew attention to the very favorable position of Munsoorcottah as a salt station, from its being situated close to the active port of Gopalpore, and connected with Berhampore and Asls by good roads.

3. The Collector's anticipations, however, have not been realized. Notwithstanding that the Kudivarum paid to the salt manufacturers at these pans was increased from 7 Rupees to Rupees 9-6-0, the sales fell off after the first year, and have been still more seriously affected by the opening of the Itchapoor pans at the commencement of the past Fussy.

4. In his letter recorded above, Mr. Forbes recommended that the pans should be closed. The Board sanctioned the discontinuance of the manufacture of salt at the pans, but requested Mr. Forbes to confer with the 3rd Member regarding their being permanently closed.

5. In his Salt Report on the Ganjam District, Mr. Clarke brought to notice the comparatively trifling sales which took place at these pans, and pointed out that in consequence of the inferior quality of the Salt manufactured there, and its more weighty nature, there was little or no demand for it at Berhampore, which supplied itself from the Itchapoor pans, though eight miles more distant.

6. In their order* on Mr. Clarke's report, the Government called upon the Board to take into their consideration the propriety of closing these pans altogether, and in the second lot of recorded at the head of these Proceedings, Mr. Foord supports the Deputy Collector's proposal for the immediate adoption of this course. The Board accordingly resolved to submit the matter for the consideration and orders of His Excellency in Council, with their recommendation that the pans be permanently closed. The marginal statement gives the sales at the pans from the period of their being re-opened in 1860.

Fusses.	Indian Maunds.
1271	62,945
1272	21,078
1273	27,767
1274 up to December 1864	9,124

7. In the event of this proposal meeting with the approval of Government, the Board beg

Division Establishment				
1 Superintendent	..	..	..	50
1 Clerk	..	..	..	25
1 Do.	..	..	..	20
1 Shroff	..	..	..	15
6 Messengers at 6 Rupees	..	..	..	36
2 Peons at 6 Rupees	..	..	..	12
2 Vettians at 5 Rupees	..	..	..	10
Station Establishment as before				150
Present Establishment				219
Establishment at Munsoorcottah to be abolished				164
Increase				55
Not saving				50

leave further to recommend that the establishment at the Itchapoor pans be raised to a higher class in consideration of the probable increase both in the manufacture and sale, and that such portion of the Munsoorcottah establishment be temporarily retained as may be necessary to effect the sale of the present stock of salt in store at these pans. The present cost of the Itchapoor Division and Station Establishment is Rupees 181, and the Board propose to raise it to Rupees 229, as particularized in the margin. This increase can be met from the saving that will be effected by the abolition of the Mun-

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
16th March 1865.*

No. 271.

ORDER THEREON, 16th March 1865, No. 579.

Separate Revenue, No. 17.

Salt.

1. Under the circumstances stated in these Proceedings, the Government sanction the discontinuance of the manufacture and sale of salt at the Munsoorcottah pans in the Ganjam District, and the increase of the cost of the establishment at the Itchapoor pans from Rupees 181 to 229, as shewn in paragraph 7 of the Board's Proceedings.

2. Authority is also granted for the retention of a portion of the Munsoorcottah establishment temporarily to effect the sale of the present stock of Salt in store at that place. The Board will report the cost and probable duration of the establishment which may be retained.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) J. D. SIM,

Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue.
" the Civil Paymaster.
" the Accountant General.

Erd. S. T. Augustin

No. 1,536.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE, dated 12th March 1864.

Read the following letter from the Collector of Ganjam, dated Chatterpur, 4th February 1864,
No. 17 :—

1. Since the opening of the new Salt works at Itchapur, and especially of late the sales there have been going on with great activity, and as the salt is far superior to that manufactured at Munsurcottah, and as the Itchapur pans are but a few miles further south, it has resulted that salt is now scarcely sold at Munsurcottah, and it will certainly not be worth while to go on with the manufacture there this season, I therefore propose with the Board's approval to close these works entirely, and save the cost of establishment and manufacture. Itchapur is a locality in which our salt works can be extended at pleasure to supply any demand, and the Munsurcottah works need therefore never be re-opened.

2. It may probably be desirable to extend the Itchapur works after the present manufacture closes, and when this is effected, the Board will, I presume, approve of an increased salary for the Superintendent and of some additions to his Establishment. I will not enter on this subject at present however, my object in this letter being to obtain the Board's approval to the closing of the manufacture at Munsurcottah.

The Board sanction the Collector's proposal so far as the present season is concerned; but defer passing orders regarding the permanent abolition of the Munsurcottah Pans until the 3rd Member has visited the Ganjam District. Mr. Clarke expects to reach Ganjam about the 21st instant, and the Collector should then bring the subject before him.

(A true Copy and Extract.)

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

To G. S. Forbes, Esq., Collector of Ganjam.

Copy to T. Clarke, Esq.

Erd. J. Wright.

17-579

Under the circumstances stated

in the Board's Proceedings, the Government sanction

the discontinuance of the manufacture and

sale of salt at the Munsoorcottah pans in the

Gangajid District, and the increase of the

cost of the establishment at the Echipoor

pans from Rs 181 to 222 as shown in para 7

of the Board's Proceedings.

2. Authority is also granted for the retention

of a portion of the Munsoorcottah establishment

temporarily to effect the sale of the present stock

7

Revenue of the Board
to be paid to the Government
on 17th July 1865 at 25/32

1861 Department

Rs 500/-

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE

Dec 12th March 1861

No 1536

Sanctioning the Collector's proposal for closing the Salt Manufacture at Munsoorcottah for the present season.

of Salt in store at that place. The
Board will report the cost and probable

duration of the establishment which

be retained.

the Board will report the cost and probable

Port St George
18th March 1800

14th Regiments 17th March

2nd Regiments 17th March

3rd Regiments 17th March

4th Regiments 17th March

5th Regiments 17th March

6th Regiments 17th March

Spec: 6th July 1865 No 4101

Pers 1865. Department.
No. of Govt for March

No. 500.
PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE,

Dated 17th February 1865.

Res 21

Res 22

21

No 551

Per B. and of Rev
By 3 May 65 C. No 1209

Recommending that the Salt pans at Mun-
soorottah in the Ganjam District be permanent-
ly closed and the establishment at the Ichapur
pans be raised.

Attest Under

14.5.18 March

N 270 & 271.

CO Pers 405 RN