

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No.	1120	Press Mis.
Dated	11-5-	1866

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
11th May 1866.

No. 197. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 26th April 1866, No. 2,931 :—

Read the following letter from the Collector of Tinnevely, to the Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Trichendoor, 11th April 1866, No. 140.

I have the honor to annex copy of a letter just received from the Superintendent of Pearl Fishery, giving an account of his examination of the southern and re-examination of part of the northern banks, the result of which is unsatisfactory. Still, as young oysters have been found in small quantities, it proves the existence of old ones, and the possibility of the banks becoming re-stocked.

From the Superintendent of Pearl Banks, to the Collector of Tinnevely, dated Tuticorin, 6th April 1866, No. 11.

1. In continuation of my letter, No. 10, dated 15th ultimo, I have the honor to inform you that I proceeded with the inspection of the pearl banks on the 19th ultimo, on which day I examined the banks, Paseo par, Pathara par, Vada Ombathoo par, Sayethoo Ombathoo par, Nenjoorichan par, Paradanjan par, and Neela Ombathoo par; these banks, though called by so many names, are all connected, and is only one somewhat large patch of rocky ground; during the time of examination the divers brought up two pearl oysters, the banks being mostly covered with weed and dead shells. At 5 P. M., I anchored for the night on the banks off Pannicoil, and at day-light on the 20th got up steam, and during the day examined the Seltan par, Rajahvooku Chippy Paricha par, Yarithoocoodamoothee par, Nadoocoodamoothee par, Sayethoo Codamoothee par, Godoo par; these banks are all small and joined together; nothing was found. I also steamed into deep water and examined a newly found bank in thirteen fathoms water; this being too deep for the divers, I could only use the dredge, which brought up some pieces of rock, but no oysters; the Kanava par, Kudian par, and Thondoo par, also small banks, were examined later in the day; on the latter a few young oysters were found. On the 21st, at day-light, I sent the canoes away, and examined the

Nadumaly Pudicha par,
Pariamaly Pudicha par,
Valangoo Caruval Carie par,
Valangoo Caruval par,
Karai Karuval par,
Oodookarai par,
Thondoo par.

On these banks nothing was found; the divers and the dredge were kept continually at work. At 2 P. M., we steamed to the southward, and at 5 P. M. anchored on the banks to the south of Manapad. On the 22nd, at day-light, proceeded over the banks using both divers and the dredge, nothing was found; during the same day examined the Manapad par; on the 23rd examined the Thandy par, Puly Poodicha par, Karai Oombathoo par, Santhommy Coilpudicha par, Thondoo par, and Poonthotta par; on these the divers were unsuccessful in finding any thing, but the

dredge brought up two young oysters; in the afternoon steamed to the north, and anchored near the Punnicoil banks. On the morning of the 24th examined the Coilpudichapathoo par, Coilpudicha par, Sangoriapathoo par, Neelangalopathoo par, and Neelangalopathoo's par. After remaining on these banks for some hours and finding nothing, steamed to the northward for the Thoyalam par. This is a very extensive bank, it was carefully examined in various parts, three pearl oysters were brought up by the divers, and two by the dredges. This being Saturday, in the evening I returned to Tuticorin.

2. On Monday the 26th, at day-light, proceeded to and examined a new bank off Tuticorin called the Allve par, on this nothing was found; during the day examined the Kanative Arupagum par, Mootoo par, Anthombudoo par, Kadian par, Cruchan par, Cruchan Tondoo par; some of these banks were examined by me in November last; they are all still, I regret to say, in the same state; in the evening I steamed to Vypar, and during the morning of the 27th re-examined these banks, from which the dredge and divers altogether brought me nine oysters; the Cruchan par, Arupagum par, Nagara par, Oster par, Oodoorivy par, and Kalathy par, were also examined without finding anything. This completed the examination of the whole of the banks and in the evening I returned to Tuticorin, and dismissed the temporary establishment.

3. The examination of the pearl banks has been this season very carefully carried out, the "Godavery" being most useful in enabling me to go direct to the various banks; the weather throughout has been particularly fine, giving me several hours each day of perfect calm, during which, with steam at command, I was able to move about the banks quickly; the future prospects of the pearl banks are still, I regret, very unsatisfactory; but from the finding of young pearl oysters in small quantities on the banks, it shows that old oysters still exist in some part of the sea, the spot from which may, at any time, re-stock the banks.

4. During the progress of the examination all pearl oysters, found by the divers, have been most carefully preserved in an aquarium on board the steamer, and when returning to Tuticorin placed on a heap of hard stones within the nursery; the number so placed has, of course, been inconsiderable, and almost useless, considering the quantity required for the purpose of stocking the nursery; if they live and spawn, they may prove of some assistance towards the object required.

5. Mr. Holdsworth, a gentleman who has lately come from England under an engagement to the Government of Ceylon, as a naturalist, has promised shortly to visit me at Tuticorin, and inspect the nursery. I hope to be able to gather some useful information from him on the subject.

6. During the examination, I have used an iron oyster dredge continually, and with great advantage, when working upon moderately smooth ground; this has proved of great service, as it acts as a check upon the divers who might sometimes be inclined to be careless; the dredge on being hauled up is generally full of stones and weeds; had oysters been in its way it must have found them.

I annex the usual statement shewing the position of the banks examined, &c., during this inspection.

Statement shewing the condition of the Pearl Banks, during the season 1865-66.

Date of examination.	Names of Banks.	Where situated.	Bearing of land or mark.	Depth of water.	Condition.	Shells found.	Kills by found.	Number of Banks.	Remarks.
1865.									
8th Nov.	Cruchan par	Off Tuticorin	.....	Fathoms, 7 to 8	Blank	No...	No...	1	Oysters found last year
"	Cruchan Tondoo par	Do.	.....	"	"	"	"	2	
"	Mootoo par	Do.	.....	"	"	"	"	3	
9th Nov.	Kadian par	Do.	.....	7	"	"	"	4	
"	Cruchan par	Do.	.....	"	"	"	"	5	
"	Cruchan Tondoo par	Do.	.....	"	"	"	"	6	
10th Nov.	Oster par	Vypar	.....	"	"	"	"	7	
"	Cruchan par	Do.	.....	"	"	"	"	8	
"	Cruchan Tondoo par	Do.	.....	"	"	"	"	9	
"	Cruchan par	Do.	.....	"	"	"	"	10	
11th Nov.	Kadian par	Tuticorin	.....	"	"	"	"	11	
"	Cruchan par	Do.	.....	"	"	"	"	12	
"	Cruchan Tondoo par	Do.	.....	"	"	"	"	13	
27th Nov.	Cruchan par	Do.	.....	"	"	"	"	14	
"	Cruchan Tondoo par	Do.	.....	"	"	"	"	15	
28th "	Cruchan par	Do.	.....	"	"	"	"	16	
"	Cruchan Tondoo par	Do.	.....	"	"	"	"	17	
1866.									
7th March	Vambar Carve par	Vambar	Nullathunnee Teevoo N. E. 51 and 6	Some young oysters. Blank	"	"	"	18	
8th "	Cruchan par	Off Mukar	Makar N. by W. N. T. Teevoo trees N. E. 1 and N. T. Teevoo by W. 1 W.	7	"	"	"	19	On one piece of sea weed a few young oysters found.
"	Cruchan par	Do.	Large tree N. T. Teevoo N. E. 1 and N. T. Teevoo by N. 1	6 and 7	"	"	"	20	
"	Cruchan par	Do.	Mockered N. W. by N. 1	7	"	"	"	21	One young oyster found

Statement shewing the condition, &c.—(Continued.)

Date of examination.	Names of Banks.	Where situated.	Bearing of land or mark.	Depth of water.	Condition.	Seorum found.	Killifish found.	Number of banks.	Remarks.
1866. 8th March.	Nallathunnee par.	Off Mukur...	Valimukum point N. by E. 1 E. N. T. Teevoo trees N. W. by W.	Fathoms, 6 and 7	Blank...	No...	No.	22	
9th "	Keelakary par...	Keelakary...	.....	7	"	"	"	23	Five young oysters found.
"	New bank.....	Do.	Peria Malay Teevoo N. and Valimukum point N. W. 1 W.	7	"	"	"	24	Blank.
10th March.	Paumben par.....	Paumben.	Light House N. 1 E. Paroo-vattum N. E. by W.	6 and 7	"	"	"	25	Oysters very young.
"	Chenee par.....	Do.	.....	6 and 7	Blank.....	"	"	26	
"	Ravee par.....	Do.	.....	6 and 7	"	"	"	27	One young oyster two years old.
12th "	Munnalitheevoo par...	Do.	.....	5 and 6	Young oysters	"	"	28	Oysters very young.
13th "	Chenee par.....	Valimukum Point.	.....	6	"	"	"	29	
19th "	Keelakund par.....	Do.	.....	7	"	"	"	30	
"	Parsee par.....	Tuticorin.....	.....	7 and 8	"	"	"	31	
"	Pathara par.....	Do.	.....	8	"	"	"	32	
"	Vadoombathoo par.....	Do.	.....	8	"	"	"	33	
"	Saidhoo Ombathoo par...	Do.	.....	8	"	"	"	34	
"	Nenjoorichan par.....	Do.	.....	8	"	"	"	35	
"	Paradajan par.....	Do.	.....	9	"	"	"	36	
"	Neela Ombathoo par...	Do.	.....	9	"	"	"	37	
"	Seltan par.....	Punnicoil.....	.....	8	"	"	"	38	
20th "	Rajavooku Chippi Par...	Do.	.....	8	"	"	"	39	
"	cha par.	Do.	.....	8	"	"	"	40	
"	Yathacedamoothee par.	Do.	.....	7	"	"	"	41	
"	Sathcoodamuthee par.	Do.	.....	7	"	"	"	42	
"	Poode par.....	Do.	.....	8	"	"	"	43	
"	Kanava par.....	Do.	.....	8	"	"	"	44	
"	Kadian par.....	Do.	.....	8	"	"	"	45	
"	Thondoo par.....	Do.	.....	8	Some young oysters.	"	"		

21st March.	Nadumalypudicha par...	Coilpatam.	.....	8	"	"	"	46	
"	Parimalypudicha par...	Do.	.....	7 and 8	"	"	"	47	
"	Valanga Karuvallene Trichendoor...	Trichendoor...	.....	7 and 8	"	"	"	48	
"	par.	Do.	.....	7 and 8	"	"	"	49	
"	Valango Karaye par...	Do.	.....	7 and 8	"	"	"	50	
"	Korie Karaval par...	Do.	.....	7 and 8	"	"	"	51	
"	Oodoo Kanee par...	Do.	.....	7 and 8	"	"	"	52	
"	Thondoo par...	Do.	.....	7 and 8	"	"	"	53	
22nd March.	Manapaud par.....	Manapaud.	.....	4, 5, and 6	"	"	"	54	
"	Manapaud par.....	Do.	.....	8	"	"	"	55	
23rd March.	Karaly Poooy Poodicha par.	Do.	.....	8	"	"	"	56	
"	Karie Ombathoo par...	Do.	.....	8	"	"	"	57	
"	Pondomy Coil Pudicha par.	Do.	.....	8	"	"	"	58	
"	Thondoo par.....	Do.	.....	8	"	"	"	59	
24th March.	Pondotha par.....	Trichendoor.	.....	8	"	"	"	60	Two oysters found.
"	Coil Pudicha par.....	Punnicoil.....	.....	8	"	"	"	61	
"	Coil Pudicha Pathoo par.	Do.	.....	8	"	"	"	62	
"	Sangava Pathoo par...	Do.	.....	8	"	"	"	63	
"	Neelayatupathoo par...	Do.	.....	8	"	"	"	64	
"	Neelangali Pudicha par.	Do.	.....	8	"	"	"	65	
"	Nielayalu Puthimore par.	Do.	.....	8	"	"	"	66	Five oysters found.
26th March.	Thoolayerum par...	Tuticorin.....	.....	8 and 9	"	"	"	67	
"	Aluva par...	Do.	Light House N. W. 1 W. Morachally Teevoo W. 1 W. 8 1 S.	6 1 2	"	"	"	68	
"	Kanavah par...	Do.	.....	7 1 2	"	"	"	69	Three young oysters found.
"	Mathiee par...	Do.	.....	7 1 2	"	"	"	70	
27th March.	Kadian par...	Do.	.....	8	"	"	"	71	
"	Crachan par, Arupagan par.	Do.	.....	8	"	"	"		

Tuticorin,
6th April 1866.

(Signed) G. A. PHIPPS,
Superintendent of Pearl Banks.

6 *Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,*
11th May 1866.

1. Submitted for the information of Government.
2. The accounts are certainly unsatisfactory, but the Board see no reason to despair of the fisheries.

No. 193. ORDER THEREON, 11th May 1866, No. 1,120.

Miscellaneous.

Order to be recorded.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) J. GROSE,

Under Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue.

*Reported to England
27th June 1866
Mis.*

*Rev. 1866. Department.
Bo of Govt. for 1866*

No. 1237
PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE,

Dated 26th April 1866.

*Benjamin
Ras 30th*

No. 2,931.

Submitting with remarks letter from Collector of Tinnevely forwarding report of Superintendent of Pearl Fishery at Tuticorin on examination of part of Northern Banks.

*22-1120
Racorde*

W. N. N. 11th May 1866

22 May 1866

For the Board of Revenue

22-1120