M.R.O. 14–5,450—22-10-25.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue **DEPARTMENT.**

G.O. No. 2207 — Press ~~Mis.~~

641-642

Dated 24-8-1866.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
24th August 1866.

No. 641. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue :—

Recommending, for favorable consideration, proposal of Collector of Godavery District to increase rate of Kudivaram allowed to Salt manufacturers from Rupees 7½ to Rupees 10 per garce for past and future years. } (Here enter 14th August 1866, No. 5,669.)

No. 642. ORDER THEREON, 24th August 1866, No. 2,207.

Separate Revenue, No. 27.
Salt.

Sanctioned.

(True Extract.)

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

To the Board of Revenue.
,, the Accountant General.

Exd. S. T. Augustin.

No. 5,669.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE, dated 14th August 1866.

Read the following letter from J. FRASER, Esq., Collector of the Godavery District, to the Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Cocanada, 20th July 1866, No. 168:—

1. I have the honor to forward, for the consideration of the Board, copy of a report received to-day from the Deputy Collector in charge of the Salt Department in this District; in which he brings to my notice the heavy expense incurred by the salt manufacturers this year.

2. I can certify that the Deputy Collector has taken great care and trouble during the past season to ensure a full crop, and one of superior quality; and in both respects he has succeeded well. The salt as a whole, is much better than much of what was in store last year. He has with much exertion persuaded the Ryots to increase the size of their producing pans, to remove the salt only once in eight or ten days, instead of as formerly every two or three days, and to allow the brine to concentrate before admitting it into the producing pans.

3. The Ryots now see the benefit of these, to them, new processes, and say "Had we known "these would result in the sort of crop we have had, we would have made no objection to under-"take them at first." They will, therefore, I hope in future years be quite ready to carry out all Mr. Clarke's suggestions without hesitation.

4. Looking at the present rates of hire, and provisions, and what these have been for the last year and more, the present rate of Kudivaram is certainly too low. I promised the Ryots to recommend a higher one for the past and future years to Government; and that proposed by the Deputy Collector is liberal, but not at all too high in my opinion. I, therefore, beg to support his proposed rate of Kudivaram for the past year and the future, viz., ten Rupees a garce. The sum at present sanctioned in the Budget will suffice to pay at this rate for the crop just secured, which is rather more than five and a half lakhs of maunds.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

From C. PUNTAYYA PUNTULU, Deputy Collector in charge of Salt Department, to the Collector of the Godavery District, dated Cocanada, 19th July 1866, No. 39.

1. I have the honor to inform you, that, with a view to carry out the manufacture of salt for Fusly 1275, I left Cocanada on 21st November last, and stationed at Karapa till the end of December, superintending the execution of repairs to salt works, which have, this year, been transferred to the Salt Department by the Public Works Department for their execution, agreeably to the Order of Government, No. 466, dated 18th March 1862.

2. In the early part of January, I removed my office from Karapa to Penuguduru, the centre of the Salt Division, to supervise the manufacturing operations.

3. I beg to bring to your notice, that, when the trade was not extensive in the port of Cocanada, the salt Ryots used to get men from neighbouring villages, to work their pans at 2½ or 3 Rupees per mensem.

1. Penuguduru.....	1. Mandagaruvu.
2. Paterlagadda ...	2. Chittayapora.
	3. Jakkava.
	4. Valamegunta.
3. Karapa.....	5. Revadi Doddi.
	6. Purugudu Doddi.
	7. Vedullamahal.
4. Gurujanapilli ...	8. Pattitippa.
	9. Nadimtippa.
	10. Ponnalacalva.
5. Chollangy	11. Ponnalacalva.
6. Kongodu..... ...	12. Venkatramda Doddi.
	13. Advipora.
7. Gorripudy.....	14. Pottitippa.

4. As the annual engagement for Fusly 1274 was only 1,00,000 maunds, I had not much trouble; but in Fusly 1275, in consideration of the limited quality of salt in store, a dittum of 4,60,000 Indian maunds was given. The manufacture was carried on in seven* villages, consisting of fourteen platforms, over which I had to superintend.

5. The Ryots have, this year, been put to too much inconvenience for procuring labor, and

complained of their inability to work out their pans, as they could not get laborers except on a higher rate of wages, owing to the increased state of commerce in Cocanada and Jagannaikpuram which are closely situated to salt works, and in consequence of gradual enhancement of prices of provisions for the last three or four years, and much more in this year, owing to the scarcity or famine that prevailed in the adjoining Districts of Vizagapatam and Ganjam, and the extensive trade in cotton, &c., the laboring classes of the adjoining villages have, as a matter of course, resorted to Cocanada and other places where they are amply remunerated, *i. e.*, six, seven, or eight Rupees on an average per month. Encamped in the division, I constantly spurred the manufacturers to forward their operations. They, with great hardship, procured men from neighbouring villages on payment of Rupees five each per month on condition of employing them for the entire five months.

6. I have given a set of rules for manufacturers for increasing the dimensions of pans and preparation of them according to the directions contained in the "Memorandum" of Salt of 1855. The Ryots showed at first every reluctance to take up the work according to the approved method which would entail much labor and cost. As I was insisting upon them to carry out the manufacture according to the new process, the Ryots at last began to work their pans early in January, and completed the manufacture of salt by the end of May.

7. The salt produced in this season is, on the whole, better than that cropped hitherto in color and in granulations. I have got all bad salt destroyed as far as practicable. The manufacturers took great deal of pains to produce the approved musters of salt. I instructed the Ryots, during the last two years, the way in which they should prepare their pans. Last year they were somewhat obstinate, but in this they obeyed my orders. The consequence was that Government had their annual engagement fulfilled and some thing more received. I believe the Ryots will carry out my orders in their full integrity in the next year in preparing their pans, and in preserving sufficient quantity of brine in reservoirs, &c.

8. This year as the salt is scraped, I began to receive it into store, in order to complete the storing within the close of the Fusly, or a little later as far as possible, and as well as to disburse Kudivaram (their share) to the manufacturers for the quantity of salt received, so that they may be able to ensure punctual payment to their servants, a measure intended to improve operations.

9. It will not be out of place to mention here that the Kudivaram of this District has been raised to the present scale by the recommendation of Mr. Purvis, the late Collector, and Honorable Mr. Pelly in former years.

10. I beg to inform you that if a cawny of ground, is properly worked out and the season be favorable, would yield twenty garces of salt, to which the Ryot receives Rupees 150, at Rupees 7½ per garce. To work that piece of land he has to engage five men for a period of five months, and has to pay Rupees 125 for the whole period of five months, at twenty-five Rupees per month for five men. After deducting the wages, there remains a balance of Rupees twenty-five for the whole season, a profit not encouraging to the Ryots who have to devote their whole time, from January to May, in the hottest part of the weather.

11. The Ryots who carry on rice cultivation would not undertake it, unless they gain a profit equal to half of the total amount realized. Out of his profits one-half being intended to appropriate towards the expenses; the other half to his credit. Taking this as an instance of the salt process, out of Rupees 150, being the Kudivaram due for twenty garces of salt, which is the produce of one cawny of swampy ground, the manufacturers should have a compensation of Rupees seventy-five after deducting the expenses attending the labor, &c. It is then only that they would willingly and encouragingly enter upon their duties.

12. This year, after great difficulty, I made the people to undertake the manufacture on the understanding that I would bring their difficult circumstances to the favorable consideration of the higher authorities for increase of Kudivaram.

13. I would beg, therefore, to suggest that, in consideration of the increased rates of the wages, and the high prices of all provisions current in this District, you will be so good as to recommend, for the favorable consideration of the Board of Revenue, to increase the present rate of Kudivaram from Rupees 7½ (one Anna per maund) to Rupees ten (one Anna and four Pies per maund), on the condition that only good salt is to be taken, and inferior to be destroyed.

(True Copy.)

(Signed) J. FRASER,
Collector.

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1. The increase of Kudivaram from Rupees 7½ per Garce, or one Anna per maund, to Rupees ten per Garce, or 1⅓ Anna per maund, will be recommended for the favorable consideration of Government, on the understanding that only good salt is to be taken, and all inferior produce destroyed, the increased rate to apply to the year's crop just secured, and for all future manufactures. The provision in the Budget is sufficient for the purpose.

2. The Deputy Collector's successful exertions to improve the manufacture are deserving of commendation.

(True Copies and Extract.)

Secretary.

To the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.

Copy to the Collector of the Godavery District.

Exd. J. Wright.

Rev. 1866. Department.
Pro: of Govt. for August

No. 2626.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE,

Dated 14*th August* 1866.
Da. D17-
Rs. 18c.

No. 5,669.

Recommending for favorable consideration proposal of Collector of Godavery district to increase rate of Kudivaram allowed to Salt Manufacturers from Rupees 7½ to Rupees 10 per Garce for past and future years.

R- 2204-
Sanctioned
J.S.
W.H. J. D.S
11th August 66.

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14 Copies to the P.G. Rave Despr 24th
Fwd to Govt 15