M.R.O. 14—13,000—27-9-24

# MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

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## Government of Madras.

Revenue **DEPARTMENT.**

G.O. No. 1183 Press ~~Mis.~~

Dated 1— 5— 1868

***Not to be folded or roughly handled***

## *Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department, 1st May 1868.*

No. 1. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 16th April 1868, No. 2,778.

Read the following letter from the Collector of Madras, to the Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated on Circuit at Trivellur, 18th March 1868, No. 86 :—

1. I have the honor to send, herewith, the reports of Messrs. Smith and Fraser, Civil Engineer, announcing the successful opening of the Ennore bar.

2. The services rendered by the Superintendent of Vallur seem to have been very valuable ; it is true that they were only part of his duty, but nevertheless, I beg to endorse Mr. Smith's recommendation for a present of a bangle to him.

3. I imagine complete success cannot be said to have been attained in the matter until we find all the salt-pans in full swing, and manufacturing nearly up to their standard ; if, however, this occurs hereafter, I will at once report it also to the Board.

P. S.—The stock of salt at the Madras Cotaur, on the 9th instant, was 16,81,788 Maunds.

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From W. FRASER, Esq., C. E., Executive Engineer, to the Superintending Engineer, 4th Division, dated Ennore, 9th March 1868, No. 258.

1. I have the honor to report that the Ennore bar was most successfully opened at about 5 o'clock last evening.

2. I arrived here from Dugarazapatam on the 6th instant, and found that the preliminary arrangements, which had been ordered, were not so far advanced as I had *hoped*, though they were quite as much advanced as I had *expected*.

3. In consequence of the festival at Tiruvatur, no additional coolies could be obtained ; but by withdrawing the coolies from three or four salt channels which were under execution in the neigbourhood, I was enabled to increase the number from twenty or thirty to about five hundred.

4. My original intention was to open the bar to-day, as full moon was to occur at 1*h*. 43*m*. this morning ; but finding that every evening a strong south-east wind set in about 3 or 4 o'clock, and raised the tide far beyond its nominal height, I determined to open the bar as speedily as possible. It was very hard work to get matters ready, and from daylight yesterday (Sunday) until 5 o'clock, P. M., our efforts were unceasing. At about 4 o'clock the water was allowed to come in, and within an hour we had a stream, forty to sixty yards wide and three to six feet in depth, flowing with great rapidity from the sea to the back-water. This went on increasing until about 7 o'clock, P. M., when there was a magnificent current into the back-water. This morning there was a similar flood inwards, and I am now satisfied that the bar will remain open for a considerable time.

5. The Vallur Salt Superintendent, Somalinga Moodelly, was constant in his attendance, and rendered me all the assistance in his power. I have reason to complain of the fishermen who are in the habit of fishing in the back-water. Their own livelihood depends in a great measure on the bar being open. They were told that they would be most useful when I came to open the bar, but not only did they not volunteer their services as, I think, they should have done, but it was with difficulty I could get some thirty or forty of them to work for a few hours.

6. This bar was opened under most unusual circumstances, and at unusual expense, and it is gratifying to know, that so far as I can at present form an opinion, our efforts have been quite successful.

Rev. Department.

No. 1330

From B. of Rev.

No: Ev. 2778. Dated 16 Apr. 1868

FOR ORDERS.

His Applicn. contains a well-merited encomium on the services rendered by Mr. Fraser in effecting what has been justly termed a work of much importance for the Salt Manufacture. Any pecuniary or special notice of individual merit should emanate from Govt. The Govt might perhaps thank Mr. Fraser for his exertions during the opportunity arises for promotion. But the Govt considers every officer as deserving of special commendation is unpleasantly marked. Strike in many quarters. [illegible] fully concur in the above recommendation of the Board. [illegible]

## *Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,* 1st *May* 1868.

From A. SMITH, Esq., Deputy Collector in charge of Salt, to the Collector of Madras, dated 10th March 1868, No. 50.

1. I have the honor to report the *unexpected* success which has attended the attempt to open the Ennore bar, under the able superintendence of Mr. Fraser. I say, advisedly, unexpected success, for although I originally recommended the attempt being made, I did so more with the view of its being the means of affording employment to the salt coolies, than under the expectation that the endeavour would prove so successful as it has been.

2. The bar was opened on the afternoon of Sunday the 8th instant, being one day earlier than was fixed by Mr. Fraser. When I inspected it on the following afternoon, the tide was flowing freely through the cut, which was then about sixty or seventy yards wide and ten feet deep.

3. I twice before visited the spot when Mr. Fraser was engaged at Dugarazapatam. From what I saw on these occasions of the progress of the work under native superintendence, I had not the faintest hope that the experiment would succeed. It was only after Mr. Fraser himself undertook the supervision, that matters assumed a favorable aspect. That Officer, I am informed, was most indefatigable in his exertions, directing the operations of the coolies during the entire day and for the greater part of the night. There can be no question that to his ability, assiduity, and energy, both this department and the hundreds of salt coolies, fishermen, and traders on the canal, are indebted for the success which he has achieved in opening a communication between the back-water and the sea.

4. Mr. Fraser made favorable mention to me of the assistance rendered him in this emergency by Somalinga Moodelly, the Superintendent of Vallur. Although the other Superintendents were in attendance, Mr Fraser said that Somalinga Moodelly was the only one of use to him, being present the whole working time, both day and night, and rendering such aid as he was able to give. It seems to me that service, voluntarily offered at a critical period, is deserving of some mark of appreciation; and I would suggest that the sanction of Government be obtained through the Board, for a gold bangle of the value of 50 Rupees being conferred on this active Superintendent, both as an encouragement to himself, and as a means of stimulating others to imitate his example on occasions of emergency.

5. I take this opportunity to report, with reference to the Board's Proceedings of the 17th ultimo, No. 1,159, that the quantity of salt in store at the Madras Cotaur, on the 9th instant, was 16,81,788 Maunds.

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1. Submitted for the information of Government.
2. The Board support the Collector's recommendation that a gold bangle worth Rupees 50 should be presented to the Superintendent of Vallur.

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No. 2. Order thereon, 1st May 1868, No. 1,183.

Miscellaneous.

The Government see no sufficient reason for the above recommendation, and must decline to comply with it.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) W. HUDLESTON,

*Secretary to Government.*

To the Board of Revenue.

Exd. S. T. Augustin.

1. Submitted for the information of Government.

2. The Board support the Collector's recommendation that a gold bangle worth Rupees 50 should be presented to the Superintendent of Vallur.

(True Copies and Extract.)

J. Grose
Sub-Secretary.

To the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.

Copy to the Collector of Madras.

Exd. J. Wright.

Dated 16th April 1868.

No. 2,778.

Submitting letter with its enclosures from the Collector of Madras reporting the successful opening of the Ennore bar, and supporting Collector's recommendation that a gold bangle of Rupees 50 value be presented to the Superintendent of Vallur.

Rev. Department
No. of Consultation
No. 1330.
1868.

Dated 22nd April 1868.
No. 2229

Rept. Ch. 1183.
Reasons for the above recommendation & must decline to comply with it.
J. St. May/68.

No. 2. ORDER THEREON, 1st May 1868, No. 1,183.

Miscellaneous.

The Government see no sufficient reason for the above recommendation, and must decline to comply with it.

(True Extract.)

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

To the Board of Revenue.

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