

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No.	1266	<u>Press</u> ~~Mis.~~
Dated	8-5-	1868.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
8th May 1868.*

No. 172. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 8th April 1868, No. 2,650.

Read the following letter from the Collector of Tinnevely, to the Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Circuit Cutcherry at Alakiapandipuram, 27th February 1868, No. 84:—

1. In reply to the Board's Proceedings, No. 7,621, dated 22nd November 1867, I have the honor to inform you that there now remain 211 heaps at Manjankolam, fifty-four at Palayakail, and thirty at Kulasegarapatnam; this shews an aggregate sale of fifty-nine heaps in eleven months at these three abandoned salt-pans.

2. I have weighed nine heaps at Manjankolam, and Mr. Pritchard, Deputy Collector, has weighed five heaps at Palayakail and three at Kulasegarapatnam; the wastage is given below.

3. Mr. Cocq, who tendered for the salt at Manjankolam, appears never to have entertained serious intentions of purchase, for after his terms were agreed to, he ceased to correspond on the subject, and it was only on the occasion of my late visit to Tuticorin, that I got him to state distinctly that he did not want the salt.

Name of salt-pans.	Number of heaps in store on 31st Jan- uary 1868.	Year of storage.	Number of heaps tested.	Average contents ascertained by weigh- ing.	Per-centage of wastage.
Manjankolam	211 { 94 87 30	1862 1863 1864	5 2 2	1,123 1,275 1,217	6 None. "
Palayakail	54	1865	5	1,003	16
Kulasegarapatnam	30	1865	3	1,013	15

4. The Manjankolam pans are more inaccessible than either Palayakail or Kulasegarapatnam. I am mending the roads to the two latter, but there is no road worth speaking of leading to the former.

5. The wastage may not be so great, but the salt is thought very inferior at Manjankolam, and from its great age it is fine in grain and will not measure well; taking all the circumstances of the case into consideration, I think it would be well to treat all three salt-pans alike, and if the Board are disposed to offer liberal terms, I do not anticipate much difficulty in getting rid of the salt; fifteen per cent. thrown off for wastage all round, and five per cent. discount allowed to the purchasers of whole heaps, would be much about what was agreed to for the Manjankolam salt.

6. I still adhere to my idea of auction being the easiest and most profitable mode of disposing of the salt, and if the Board permit twenty per cent. reduction to be the upset price, I am sure competition would run up the price to a much less reduction. The natives like auctions, and it is notable that sales are effected on much better terms by auction than by private contract. I cannot see that any loss can accrue if an upset price be fixed, and I, therefore, conclude that the Board misunderstood my suggestion, and supposed that I intended to sell the salt to the highest bidder without any reserved price. The cost of establishment and guard-

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ing this salt is nine per cent. on the present sales, so that a twenty per cent. reduction at once to get rid of the salt would perhaps be true economy.

Submitted for the consideration of Government, with the Board's recommendation that the Collector may be authorized to sell the salt at the abandoned station by auction with a reduction of twenty per cent. on the usual terms, representing loss by wastage, deterioration, &c., as the upset price. The heaps must be sold in the order in which they stand.

No. 173.

ORDER THEREON, 8th May 1868, No. 1,266.

Separate Revenue, No. 10,

Salt.

The Government sanction the Board's proposal. The Collector should notify the sale widely.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) W. HUDLESTON,
Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue.
„ the Accountant General.

By the Secretary to Government.

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Refd. sanction to
Bd. proposal. Refd. cl.
copy to the collector.

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N. L. B.
82-May/68.

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Pro. 11 Land/187 No 173-174
1st June - 172
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Rev. 1868. Department
Pro. of Govt for May

No. 1320.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE,

Dated 8th April 1868.

Dr. P. S. S. S.
R. S. S. S.

No. 2,650.

Requesting authority for the sale by auction
with a reduction of 20 per cent on the usual
terms, of the salt at the abandoned salt pans
in the Tinnevely district.

No. 172 & 173

„ the Accountant General.