M.R.O. 1—32,000—16-10-22.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 3186 Press Mis.

355-56.
Dated 22-12- 19 1868

Not to be folded or roughly handled

No. 355. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 28th October 1868, No. 7,706 :—

Read the following letter from the Deputy Collector in charge of Salt, Nellore, to the Acting Collector of Nellore, dated 25th September 1868, No. 302.

1. I have the honor to furnish the report called for in your endorsement, No. 3,331, dated 22nd instant, on copy of Government Order, Revenue Department, of the 12th ultimo, No. 2,148, received with Board's Proceedings, dated 7th instant, No. 6,363, with regard to the establishment proposed to be entertained for watching the shell-pits in the Pulicat lake in order to prevent the smuggling of spontaneous salt.

2. The Government doubt the necessity of such an establishment throughout the year, and the Board inquire for what period of the year it is actually required. In reply I beg to state that there is likely to be nine months' actual work, namely, from the middle or end of January to the middle or end of October in each year, when the north-east monsoon sets in.

3. In addition to the work of watching these shell-pits, the establishment will have to superintend the annual repairs and maintenance of the dyke embankments, and other preventive works in the lake, for which certain temporary Gumastahs and Peons, as well as some of the servants of the regular establishment, are now each year deputed, as is set forth in the correspondence upon which the Government Order under reference was passed. The annual cost of the repair of the dyke will, if the permanent establishment now proposed is entertained, be thus reduced, and as shewn in my predecessor's letter, No. 91, of 30th March 1868, the cost of temporary establishments in 1867 amounted to Rupees 509-11-5, or not much less than one-half of the annual cost of the proposed establishment.

4. I am given to understand that in some years a saving has been effected by employing men to cut the dyke banks during the monsoons, and affording a free passage for the efflux of the flood waters through one or two gaps here and there in the banks, which are thus to a great extent saved, and the repairs required are said to be rendered materially less. The effect of the waves on the earth-bank is stated to be by this means broken, and the proposed establishment, if entertained permanently, might be turned to good account in this manner during the monsoon months, though of course the work will not keep them employed throughout the time, or even one half of it.

5. Considering, however, the drawbacks, the temporary nature of the establishment if entertained for only a portion of the year will entail, it might perhaps in the end be real economy to maintain it throughout the year permanently. The cost is given at Rupees 1,344 per annum, and if the supervision is as strict as it should be, I feel sure it must be followed by a direct increase in our home sales of *at least* Rupees 5,000 per annum.

6. I think also that the head of the establishment should be a servant of some position and able to command respect in that neighbourhood, and the designation "Duffadar," savouring as it does so much of a menial office, is likely, if

, adopted, to deter many intelligent and trustworthy men of the higher castes from taking the appointment, which otherwise the salary offered would, doubtless, render worth their acceptance. Either "Supervisor" as you have proposed, or, following the Official Vocabulary of the Salt Department, "Superintendent," or "Overseer," appears to me better than "Duffadar." For the reasons assigned in paragraph 3 above, it will also be necessary that this "Supervisor," or whatever else it may be determined to style him, should have a good knowledge of Telugu and accounts; and in reference to the arduous and responsible nature of the work, and the large and disagreeable tract of country he will be required to itinerate in, I do not think 40 Rupees per mensem is by any means too much pay. *A really good man* must be selected for the post, for rather than have an indifferent hand it would be better to have no one at all.

SUBMITTED to the Board of Revenue, with reference to their Proceedings, dated 7th September 1868, No. 6,363. There is no doubt that smuggling of spontaneous salt is largely carried on, and the entertainment of this preventive establishment all the year round is most advisable. The men should be under the charge of a responsible official, a Superintendent or Supervisor, and will be able to attend to the maintenance of the dyke across the lake.

NELLORE,
1*st October* 1868.

(Signed) J. A. C. BOSWELL,
Acting Collector.

To the Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue.

SUBMITTED to Government with reference to their order quoted by the Collector.

2. The Board request that, for the reasons given by the Deputy Collector and the Collector, the Government will be pleased to adopt the plan before recommended by the Collector and the Board, and that sanction may be granted for the entertainment of a permanent establishment at a cost of Rupees 1,344 per annum, under the immediate control of a Superintendent on Rupees 40 per mensem.

No. 356. ORDER THEREON, 22nd December 1868, No. 3,186.

Separate Revenue, No. 10.
Salt.

	RS.
1 Superintendent at	40
12 Peons, at 6 Rupees each	72
	112
Per annum ...	1,344

1. Sanction is accordingly granted for the entertainment of the establishment noted in the margin, throughout the year, for watching the shell-pits at the Pulicat lake where large quantities of spontaneous salt are formed. This expenditure will be met from savings in the Budget, and reported to the Government of India in the monthly Statement.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
22nd December 1868.

2. The preventive establishment hitherto employed for the same purpose will of course be discontinued.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) R. A. DALYELL,
Acting Secretary to Government.

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

Exd. S. T. Augustin.

Govt. of {1868} Madras.

REVENUE.

To

THE BOARD OF REVENUE,

&c., &c., &c.

Dated December, 22nd.

Recd. *Encl.*

G. O., 22nd December 1868, *No.* 3,186.

DECEMBER.

Nos. 355-356.

Shell-pits in the Pulicat lake.—Entertainment of an establishment to prevent the smuggling of spontaneous salt formed in them, sanctioned.

met from savings in the e-
Budget, and reported to the
Govt of India in the month-
-ly statement.

2 The preventive esta-
-blishment hitherto employed
for the same purpose will
of course be discontinued.

2/12/58

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Revenue 1868 Diplomas &c

No 6/1870.

Proceedings of the Madras Government

Dated 22nd December 1868

Estate of Nath Ekkel Veeh in Dutteah.

Chief Secy

Govt

3564/350.