M.R.O. 1—80,000—16-10-29.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 2705 Press ~~Mis.~~

(A-11)

Dated 2nd October 1869.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Read again Board's Proceedings, recorded in G. O., 12th July 1869, No. 2,006.

No. 10. Read also the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 19th August 1869, No. 6,191 :—

Read the following letter from the Collector of South Arcot, to the Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Cuddalore, 24th July 1869, No. 164.

REFERRING to the Proceedings of Government, received through the Board of Revenue, under date 12th instant, No. 2,006, I have the honour to forward copy of a letter from the Superintendent of Police, enclosing a transcript of that officer's report, at the time addressed to the Inspector-General of Police, in the matter of the detection of the salt-theft at Cumblymodoo of the Gundelum salt division ; and from these papers it will be seen what the action of the Police has been. It would appear that some of the subordinate Constabulary stationed at the pans, in collusion with the salt servants, had been trading with Government salt on their own account during the night time, and that on information of the fact, the Inspector, with others under him, at the instance of the Police Superintendent, planned on the occasion in question to detect these parties, and were successful in their efforts.

2. The two Assistant-Salt-Superintendents were tried and sentenced each to Rupees 250 fine and rigorous imprisonment for two years, and twelve petty servants were punished by imprisonment for various terms ; and Lieutenant Young, the Police Superintendent, states, (*vide* para. 9 of his Report,) that seven Police Constables were convicted and sentenced each to nine months' rigorous imprisonment.

3. There was nothing whatever to implicate the Salt-Superintendent with any concern or connivance in the proceedings of his subordinates, and I am of opinion that he is free of any such suspicion, though undoubtedly he was guilty of negligence ; and had he been as energetic as an officer in his position ought to be, the daring and wholesale attempt at stealing salt would hardly have been made. This opinion I have already recorded in my letter to the Board, under date the 26th ultimo, No. 144, when reporting specially on Goolam Hyder's petition for re-instatement ; and I also added that, in view of his character and length of service, and the absence of the slightest imputation of guilt in this matter, his hitherto suspension from office might suffice as his punishment.

4. The 9th para. of Mr. Hewetson's letter is somewhat obscure, and was perhaps calculated to mislead, as he makes no distinction between the Constabulary who acted in concert with the salt servants, and those who had no part whatever in the matter, but who, under the leadership of the Inspector, and on information by one of them to the Superintendent, had successfully effected the seizure, which resulted in the conviction and punishment of so many petty public servants of both the Police and Salt Departments.

5. I was not aware until the receipt of Lieutenant Young's letter that rewards had already been granted to any of his people, and I think that this amount may reasonably be deducted from any reward now to be paid to them ; but this, of course, is for the Board and Government to determine.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

From Lieutenant T. H. B. YOUNG, Acting Superintendent of Police, South Arcot, to the Collector of South Arcot, No. 171.

WITH reference to your letter, No. 232, dated 17th instant, enclosing copy of Government Proceedings as per margin, I have the honour to forward, for the information of Government, a copy of my report to the Inspector-General on the action taken by Police in the Cumblymodoo salt-theft case.

No. 2,006, dated 12th July 1869.

2. You will observe that Inspector O'Connel's efforts were directed to catch both Police and Salt officials who were known to be in collusion, and that both parties were convicted by the Magistrate.

	Rs.	A.	P.
Inspector Mr. O'Connell	20	0	0
Deputy-Constable, No. 62, Meerkader Hoossain.	15	0	0
Constable, No. 3, Mahomed Cassim and Constable No. 779, Shaik Batcha, at Rupees 10 each.	20	0	0
	55	0	0

3. I would here state that rewards as per margin have been granted by the Inspector-General, and paid to the individuals concerned.

ENCLOSURE No. 2.

From Lieutenant T. H. B. YOUNG, Acting Superintendent of Police, South Arcot, to the Acting Inspector-General of Madras Police, dated Cuddalore, 30th September 1868, No. 272.

I HAVE the honour to report particulars of late theft of salt from Government pans at Cumblymodoo in the talook of Cuddalore.

2. About the beginning of last month I received reports, through the Salt Department, of considerable quantities of salt having been stolen, and on personal inquiry found that part was said to have been taken from certain beds which, on close examination, proved too small to produce the amount said to have been lost, and the rest from small heaps which had been piled on the platforms, but not as yet measured and handed over to Government.

3. I at once suspected that these reports were simply made to screen the salt subordinates, should any deficiency of salt become apparent hereafter; and, in the meantime, I could see nothing to prevent the salt subordinates, with connivance of Police, from disposing of as much salt as they pleased, so long as hundreds of small heaps were left unmeasured on the platforms.

4. About the 8th or 9th of August I received information that at Cumblymodoo the Salt-Assistants were, with connivance of Police, in the habit of selling salt at night for 8 Annas a-basket.

5. I asked the Deputy-Collector to accompany me to Cumblymodoo, and on arrival pointed out to him the way salt was disposed of. It appears that the heaps of unmeasured salt had been there (on platforms) for some considerable period. The Deputy-Collector ordered that they should be taken over and measured.

6. The Deputy-Constable of Cumblymodoo, who had only just been put in charge, was the individual who had given the information, and he said that he had been asked to join, but had given no decisive answer. This officer now related how the Government were defrauded, and stated that the Constables connived. After considering what was best, I came to the conclusion that the only way to stop these frauds was to catch all parties in the act if possible, and accordingly requested Mr. Inspector O'Connell to concert measures with the Deputy-Constable.

7. On the 16th August, at 11 P. M., about 100 men and women were busy conveying away salt from Cumblymodoo heaps, where they paid 8 Annas a-basket to the Salt-Assistants for the same, the Salt Peon being in attendance with a measure, when Inspector O'Connell, Head-Constable Taylor, and the men as per margin, appeared on the scene, where after a skirmish in which one or two were wounded, four thieves were arrested on the spot and thirteen others very shortly afterwards, the Salt Peon being one of these latter; he had received a nasty sword-

Deputy-Constable, No. 62, Meerkader Hoossain.
2nd-Class ,, ,, 3, Mahomed Cassim.
Do. ,, ,, 779, Shaik Batcha.

Ir. Taylor, as he was making off with the measure full of salt. The guard doo were not to be found, so I suspended them all on receipt of Mr. O'Con-ued orders for their prosecution for conniving at criminal breach-of-trust and

sistants who were present superintending the sale, had taken such precau-ety, should anything turn up, that they were not arrested till next day.
of the trial of all the parties concerned is as follows:—
nt-Superintendents two years' rigorous imprisonment and 250 Rupees fine;
, sentenced to various terms, extending from three to nine months' rigorous
were released.
rs, seven in number, were convicted and sentenced to nine months' rigorous

ecovered in the case above reported is valued at 300 Rupees, and as far as I say about that amount had been sold, so that there has been little or no actual . It appears on inquiry that the Deputy-Collector's order regarding the heaps and that they had not been measured or handed over to Government autho-e increases the difficulty of knowing how much actually had been stored and y. Cumblymodoo being isolated affords peculiar facilities for salt-thefts of the

nsferred Mr. Taylor to the reserve, where he will get increase of pay.
at the Police officers engaged in detection of the case should be paid a per-ecovered.
due to Inspector O'Connell for the manner in which he prosecuted the cases to

to Government with reference to Government order, dated 12th 2,006.
tion of the Police seems to have been judicious.
oard do not think that the rewards, sanction of which was applied ceedings of the 9th March 1869, No. 1,580, should be diminished, lepartmental recognition of the conduct of the Police.

ORDER THEREON, 2nd October 1869, No. 2,705.

ate Revenue, No. 1.
Salt.

UNDER the circumstances represented in the enclosures to the second Proceedings above recorded, the Government are pleased to sanction the a sum of Rupees 175 for distribution, at the Collector's discretion, embers of the Police force who were engaged on the occasion under

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

Revenue.
-General.
General of Police.

man.

Govt. of H.S.G.P. Secretariat.

REVENUE.

To

THE BOARD OF REVENUE.

&c., &c., &c.

Dated October, 1869.

Proc.

Read

G. O., 2nd October 1869, No. 2705.

CONCLD.

Rec. 19-11.

Sub-station in South Arcot.—Establishment of Peons 175 sanctioned for distribution among the Police engaged in its detection.

No 2705 Revl. Deptt

Pro: of the Madras Government
under date the 2 October 1869
Read again Bd. Pro:
recorded in G.O. 12 July 1869 No 2006.
Read also the following
Pro: of the 1st Bd. of Revenue
No. E. 19 Augt 1869 No. 6191

Under the circumstances represented in the enclosures to the second Pro/ above recorded, the Govt are pleased to sanction the disbursement of a sum of Rs 175. 0. 0. at the Collectors discretion, among those members of the police force who have engaged in the occasion under reference

Rs 175.

for distribution,

14 Fellow Bs of Revl Deptt
6 —— Head Peons
4 —— Inspectors of Police