M.R.O. 1—38,000—16-10-29.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 2727 Press ~~Mis.~~

54-55

Dated 5th October 1865.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

3722-M

No. 54. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 27th August 1869, No. 6,459.

Read the following letters:—

From the Collector of	Ganjam,	dated	1st March	1869,	No.	77.
,, ,,	Vizagapatam,	,,	22nd Feb.	,, ,,		108.
,, ,,	Godavery,	,,	22nd ,,	,, ,,		34.
,, ,,	Kistna,	,,	30th June	,, ,,		198.
,, ,,	Nellore,	,,	22nd May	,, ,,		988.
,, ,,	Bellary,	,,	19th April	,, ,,		70.
,, ,,	Cuddapah,	,,	22nd March	,, ,,		34.
,, ,,	Kurnool,	,,	25th Feb.	,, ,,		47.
,, ,,	,,	,,	23rd March	,, ,,		75.
,, ,,	Madras,	,,	1st June	,, ,,		163.
,, ,,	Salem,	,,	15th Feb.	,, ,,		27.
,, ,,	North Arcot,	,,	16th ,,	,, ,,		34.
,, ,,	South Arcot,	,,	18th ,,	,, ,,		41.
,, ,,	Tanjore,	,,	20th ,,	,, ,,		33.
,, ,,	Trichinopoly,	,,	23rd March	,, ,,		44.
,, ,,	Madura,	,,	19th Feb.	,, ,,		54.
,, ,,	Tinnevelly,	,,	4th May	,, ,,		188.
,, ,,	Coimbatore,	,,	7th ,,	,, ,,		84.
,, ,,	Malabar,	,,	5th ,,	,, ,,		113A.

Read also official memorandum from H. E. STOKES, Esq., Acting Under-Secretary to Government, to the Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated 16th July 1869, No. 102.

ABSTRACT.—Requesting Board to call on Collectors to submit early replies to Government order, regarding wanton destruction of fish in inland rivers.

THE letters from Collectors recorded above, are herewith submitted for the information of Government, with reference to paragraph 2 of Government order, dated 12th August 1868, No. 2,151, and to official memorandum of 16th July 1869. The Government have already decided on adopting the protective measures advocated by Dr. Day for fresh-water fisheries. The subject of salt-water fisheries is under reference to the Collectors of maritime districts, and will be reported on hereafter.

2. It will be seen that the Collectors of Ganjam, Vizagapatam, Godavery, Nellore, Bellary, Cuddapah, Madras, Salem, North and South Arcot, Tanjore, Madura, and Tinnevelly, agree in reporting that no wanton destruction of fish takes place in the rivers of their districts, and that no protective measures are needed.

3. The Collector of Trichinopoly would recommend that the use of nets be restricted to those with large meshes, and that "fence-mouths" should be observed.

4. The Collectors of Ganjam, Madras, and North Arcot report, that as there is no water in most of the rivers of those districts during a large part of the year, there are never any fish worth preserving.

5. The Collector of Kurnool submits two reports, in the first of which he states that in the Kistna river there is a long reach which has no villages on its banks, is seldom fished in, and may be regarded as a large breeding-place. He considers that no protective measures are called for, and that the supply of fish is not likely to be appreciably affected by any of the methods of fishing now practised. As regards the lesser streams, he observes that if the fish which are left in the rivers when the dry season comes on, were not taken, they would simply dry up and rot; and he deprecates any interference on the part of Government.

6. With his second letter, the Collector of Kurnool forwards a report from the Head-Assistant, who states that he believes that wanton destruction of fish does take place, and that poisoning is had recourse to by stealth. The streams reported on are however of very insignificant size.

7. The Collector of the Kistna District reports that large numbers of Hilsa and other fish continue to be taken below the anicut at Bezwada, where the temporary fish-ladder has failed of its object. He suggests that the result of Mr. Thomas's experiments in South Canara be seen before any restrictive measures are taken.

8. The Collector of Coimbatore reports that considerable destruction of small fry, chiefly of the "gendai" fish, takes place in the Ambravaty and Cauvery rivers, and that far more fish are caught in the Bhowany than can be consumed on the spot, and that the surplus supply is salted and becomes an article of trade. He would prohibit wanton destruction of fish by legislative enactment, and if needful, employ Police officers to repress illegal fishing. He suggests also the issue of rules forbidding poisoning and the erection of dams, and regulating the size of mesh to be allowed for nets. He also recommends the observance of a "close time."

9. The Collector of Malabar states that no great diminution in the supply of river-fish has been observed, but that the supply of Sardines (from which oil was extracted largely) formerly obtained from the sea, has lately failed in an unaccountable manner. The practice of poisoning river-fish appears to be carried on in the district.

No. 55.

ORDER THEREON, 5th October 1869, No. 2,727.

Miscellaneous.

As the Government have already directed the adoption of the protective measures suggested by Dr. Day in regard to all the inland waters of the Presidency,* no orders are necessary on the foregoing papers. The Board of Revenue will, however, be requested to state

* G. O., 25th June 1869, No. 1,812.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department, 5th October 1869.

what detailed instructions to the district officers were issued when the G. O., under date 25th June 1869, No. 1,812, was communicated to them.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) R. A. DALYELL,

Acting Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue.

Exd. F. B. Bantleman.

No. 2727. 19 D.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT,
FORT SAINT GEORGE,
5th October, 1869.

No. 2,728.

No. 56.
To

THE SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA,
HOME DEPARTMENT.

SIR,

Miscellaneous.

WITH reference to para. 4 of your letter, dated 16th July, 1868, No. 2,999, inquiring whether any wanton destruction of fish takes place in inland rivers in this Presidency, and whether any protective measures are necessary in respect to those rivers, I am directed to forward, in continuation of my letter marginally* noted, the accompanying Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, containing a summary of the reports received from the Collectors of districts on the subject, together with the Proceedings of Government thereon of this day's date, No. 2,727. Copy of the order of Government of 25th June, 1869, No. 1,812, referred to in the latter Proceedings, is also enclosed.

* 18th May, 1869, No. 1,384.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,
(Signed) R. A. DALYELL,
Acting Secretary to Government.

Exd. F. R. Bantleman.

Year 1869 Department.

[ ]

From Government of
Fort St. George.

Dated 5th Oct.
R. } No. 3,723.
Enclosures.
6 spare copies.

D. No.
J. No. Progs. { D. / No.

OCTOBER.
No. 56.

FORWARDING Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, containing a summary of the reports received from Collectors relative to the wanton destruction of fish in inland rivers and the protective measures necessary in connection with it.

Returned
Con Branch
Dept 6

5th Oct 69.

9/o 2728

To
The Secy to the Govt of India
Home Dept

Sir,

With reference to
para 4 of your letter
dated 16 July 1868 No.
2999 enquiring whether
any branches destructive
of fish takes place
in inland rivers in
this Presidency, and
whether any protective
measures are necessary
in respect to those
rivers, I am directed
to forward, in con-
tinuation of my letter,
marginally noted, the
accompanying

Copy.

18 May 69 No 1384

Proc. of the Bd of Rev, containing a summary of the reports received from the Collectors on the subject, together with the Proc. of Govt thereon of this date

Also Copy of the Order of Govt of 25 June 1869 No 1812 referred to in the latter Proc. is also enclosed

90

Rev = 1869. Separate

Board of Revenue,

MADRAS.

No. 3021.

PROCEEDINGS, 27TH AUGUST 1869, No. 6,459.

Encl. Rec'd 6th Sept 1869 & Rec'd

Resp 6th September 1869

Received 6th "

A

Sel. No. 272 - 5 Oct 1869

AUGUST.

No. 6,459.

Fish in inland rivers.—Replies of Collectors to Board's Proceedings enquiring whether any wanton destruction of —, takes place, and what measures are necessary for its prevention,' submitted to Government, with remarks.

52.