

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No.	1290	Press ~~Mis.~~
315-16 Dated	18-8-1920.	M.

Not to be folded or roughly handled1290
30

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
18th August 1870.*

No. 315. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 1st August 1870, No. 5,117:—

Read again Board's Proceedings, No. 3,980, dated 8th June 1870.

Read also the following letter from the Collector of Malabar, to the Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Calicut, 6th July 1870, No. 246.

With reference to Board's Proceedings of 8th June 1870, No. 3,980, I have the honour to inform you that I made the experiment of thoroughly drying a small quantity of salt obtained from the salt-godowns here, and ascertained that it parted with ten per cent. of its weight.

2. The deficit in the Beypore gollah was about $3\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. I find on referring to accounts that deficits of as much as $\frac{3}{4}$ per cent. have occurred in this particular room before, and it is not unlikely that they would have been larger but for the practice of over-storage which was shown by the inquiry to exist. The greater part of the salt in which this deficit occurred having been stored after the inquiry, it is probable that great care was used not to give room for further charges of over-storage.

3. On the whole, I do not think that there is cause for holding the pensioned Superintendent responsible for the deficit, and I recommend that it may be written off the accounts.

4. The Range Officer will be requested to prepare an estimate for re-placing the galvanized iron roof by one of tiles.

THESE papers have reference to a deficiency of 2,359 maunds of salt out of 74,138 maunds stored in a salt-room (or gollah) on the Western Coast.

2. The Collector now reports that he has found by actual experiment that salt thoroughly dried parts with ten per cent. of its weight.

3. The loss in the present case was only about $3\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. spread over three years.

4. The Board are satisfied with the explanation, and request the sanction of Government for writing off 2,359 maunds.

No. 316. ORDER THEREON, 18th August 1870, No. 1,290.

Separate Revenue, No. 26.
Salt.

SANCTIONED.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) H. E. STOKES,
Under-Secretary to Government.

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

Exd. F. R. Bantleman.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE, dated 8th June 1870.

Read the following letter from W. LOGAN, Esq., Sub-Collector in charge of Malabar, to the Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Calicut, 5th April 1870, No. 124:—

I REGRET to have to report, for the information of the Board, the occurrence of a deficiency in the quantity of salt stored in Room No. 1 A. in the Beypore Salt Gollah.

	Maunds.
2. The quantity originally stored in the room by the late Superintendent in February and March 1867 was...	37,332
Deduct the quantity sold by the late Superintendent between 13th June and 30th December 1868 ...	30,162
Balance...	7,170
Add the quantity stored by the late Superintendent in January and up to 6th February 1869 ...	36,806
Total...	43,976
Deduct the quantity sold by the late Superintendent between 5th August 1869, and 3rd March 1870 ...	39,761
Leaving a balance when the present Acting Superintendent took charge on the 4th March of ...	4,215
Deduct the quantity sold by the present Acting Superintendent between 4th and 16th March 1870 ...	1,856
	2,359

The room being emptied by the last sales, there is a deficiency of ...
3. When taking over charge of the Gollah, the late Superintendent took on himself the responsibility for any deficiency in the quantity of salt stored by himself, provided it was weighed in the presence of the Head Gumastah and of the Shroff, and subsequently he informed the present Superintendent that it would be sufficient if the salt were weighed in the presence of one only of these officers. In accordance with this stipulation, the balance of salt in Room No. 1 A. was weighed and sold in the presence of one or both of the individuals above-mentioned, and everything was done in a way that fixes the responsibility for the deficiency on the late Superintendent.

4. The late Superintendent was called on to explain how the deficiency arose. He was examined yesterday by Mr. Glenny, who is in special charge of the Salt Department, and a copy of his statement, and of those of the Head Gumastah and Shroff are herewith forwarded.

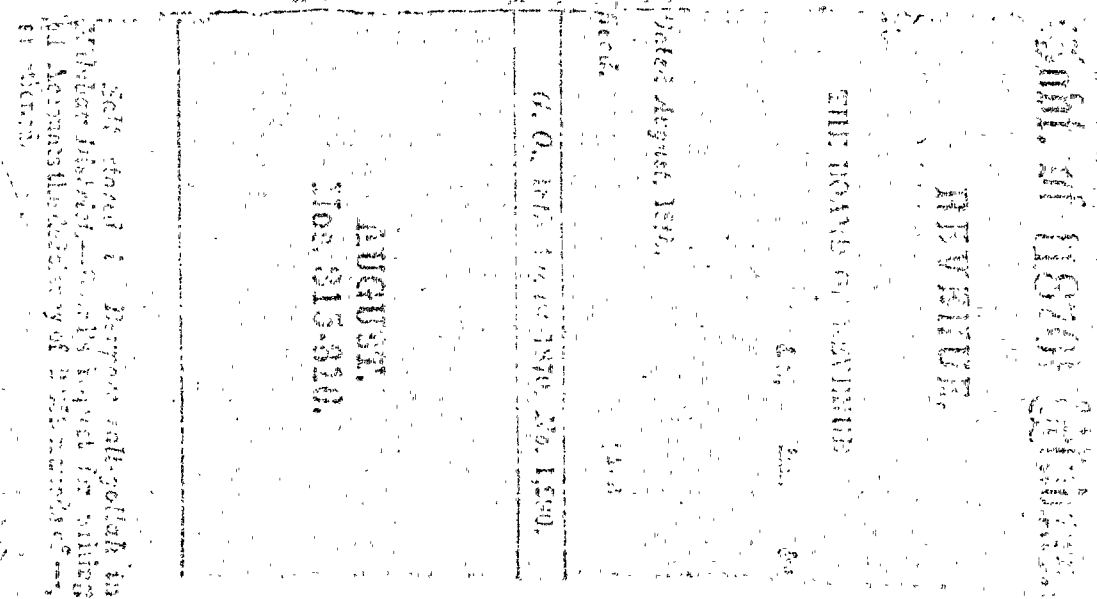
5. The Board will observe that the late Superintendent attributes the deficiency to two causes, viz:—

I. The excessive evaporation of moisture from the salt caused by the roof of this particular room in the Gollah being of galvanised iron, and

II. The leakage from the roof of this particular room during the rains.

6. I must say that this explanation has on the face of it, great plausibility. There can be no doubt that very great variations in the weight of salt occur according as it is dry or loaded with moisture. Galvanised iron roofs are notoriously bad roofs for keeping out heat, and the instance mentioned by Mr. Glenny in his letter (copy of which I enclose) is a sufficient proof of the degree to which evaporation may take place under such a roof. Salt will not give off its moisture so readily as vegetable matter, but it is deserving of notice that the drying process in this particular room of the Salt Gollah has been going on for three years, and that every particle almost of the salt would be subjected to its influence owing to the gradual manner in which the sales took place.

7. As regards the leakage of the roof, I observe that (as the late Superintendent states) he twice brought the matter to notice in his Reports (Nos. 28 and 15, dated 18th June 1867 and 4th June 1869), and this fact too accounts to some extent for the deficiency. The Superintendent reported in both cases that he had the petty repairs carried out himself immediately on the occurrence of the leakage. I have myself noticed the effect of roof leakage on salt. Where the drip occurs, there is always a hole, big or little, according to the extent of the leakage; the salt melts and disappears. In my opinion, however, the leakage unless it occurred to an unprece-



dented extent which does not appear to have been the case, would not account for much of the deficiency.

8. Whether both of these causes account satisfactorily for such a large deficiency, I am not at present prepared to say. I am not aware that any similar instance has ever before occurred in this district, but perhaps experience may have been gained in other districts which may enable the Board to decide at once what weight should be attached to the explanation offered. If this is not the case, I would propose to institute certain experiments with a view to ascertaining what effect a thorough drying has on the weight of salt.

9. It should not escape attention that in the year 1868, in consequence of certain information, Mr. Ballard directed two of the rooms of this Beypore Gollah then in charge of the late Superintendent to be examined, and the salt weighed by the Assistants, Messrs. Glenny and Cameron. The result showed an excess of 485 Indian Maunds of the value of Rupees 818-7-0, as reported to the Board, in Mr. Ballard's letter, recorded in Board's Proceedings, dated 22nd July 1868, No. 5,338.

10. I shall only at present, further add, that in my own opinion, speculation in Salt Gollahs is not carried on by actually taking salt from the rooms. There are so many other ways of making illicit gains, for example, by weighing in heavy and weighing out light, that a man who took salt from the store and thus caused a deficiency in the quantity stored, (for which he would be held responsible,) would be looked on as a very clumsy performer.

11. Galvanised iron roofing is evidently a bad roofing for salt stores, and I would propose to have the roof of Room No. 1 A. tiled.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

From W. H. GLENNY, Assistant Collector, to the Sub-Collector in charge of Malabar, dated Calicut, 4th April 1870, No. 790.

1. From late Superintendent.
2. From Gumastah.
3. From Shroff.

I HAVE the honour to send to you a Memorandum of three Statements relating to the recent deficiency in Room No. 1, at Beypore Salt Gollah.

2. I desire to remark, with reference to the main portion of the late Superintendent's explanation, that not long ago, I happened myself to witness a striking instance of the powerful effect of galvanised iron-roofing in producing evaporation in this climate. It occurred in a room in Mr. Peirce's factory near Calicut. A quantity of new wooden implements, (and nothing else,) had been brought over night into the room; at about 8 o'clock the next morning, the weather being dry and hot, moisture was dripping freely from the metal roof.

(True Copy.)

(Signed) W. LOGAN,
Sub-Collector in charge.

ENCLOSURE No. 2.

ABSTRACT.—Copies of statement made by the late Superintendent of Beypore Salt Gollah, and that of the Head Gumastah and Shroff of same office.

In this letter the Sub-Collector (in charge) reports a deficiency of 2,359 maunds of salt out of a total of 74,138, stored during the course of the past three years.

2. The Superintendent concerned attributes the loss first to the excessive evaporation consequent on the roof being of galvanised iron, and secondly, to leakage in the roof.

3. The deficiency actually amounts to about three and one-fifth per cent. spread over three years.

4. The Board resolve to request the Collector to institute the experiments proposed by his Sub-Collector in paragraph 3, and defer passing final orders on this letter pending the result.

(True Copies and Extract.)

(Signed) J. B. PENNINGTON,
Acting Sub-Secretary.

To the Collector of Malabar.

Exd. G. A. Turton.

4.

No 1290
Sd.S Sanctioned

18 Aug 70

14. Letter B. of Rev. Secy. 24.
to - Secy. Genl. N

11/10

180

Decd No 2397/70
1870.

Board of Revenue
MADRAS.

PROCEEDINGS, 8TH JUNE 1870, No. 3,980.

Received
Encl.

Mr. Secy. to Govt. Secy.

JUNE.
No. 3,980.

Salt.—stored in room No. 1 A in Beylore Salt
Gallah in Malabar District.—Collector requested,
with reference to deficiency discovered in quan-
tity of, to institute certain experiments proposed
by Sub-Collector, with a view to ascertaining
what effect a thorough drying has on weight of
salt.

20. 11. 1870. 18. 11. 1870.