

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue

DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. *1945*~~Press~~
~~Mis.~~

Dated

*5-12-**1970*Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
6th December 1870.*

No. 114. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 1st November 1870, No. 6,416:—

Read the following letter from the Collector of Malabar, to the Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Calicut, 28th September 1870, No. 329.

With reference to the Proceedings of Government, dated 22nd July 1869, No. 2,140, I have the honour to report on the results of the grant of rewards for the destruction of alligators in the district, during the year ending 31st July last.

2. A sum of Rupees 49 was disbursed during the period as rewards for killing five alligators, whose size was about eight and-a-half feet.

Talucs.	Number of alligators killed.	Amount of reward granted.		
		RS.	A.	P.
Cherakal	1	10	0	0
Kurumbrand	2	20	0	0
Ponani	1	10	0	0
Walluvanad	1	7	0	0
Cochin... ..	1	2	0	0
Total...	6	49	0	0

3. The taluqs in which the rewards were granted are detailed in the margin.

4. The Deputy-Collector of Ponani reports that, though only one alligator was killed in the Ponani Taluq since the promulgation of the Government Order, it is by no means to be inferred that they are less abundant in the rivers in his division. He thinks that the order

sanctioning the grant of the reward is not yet generally known.

5. Three alligators were killed in the Head Assistant Collector's division, but as two of these were below the prescribed size, no reward was granted.

6. In the Sub-division, three alligators are reported to have been killed, one of which having been below the prescribed size; a reward was specially sanctioned in Government Order, dated 28th March 1870, No. 392.

7. During the period under notice, one man, 13 head of cattle and 2 buffaloes have been carried away by these animals, and the loss of property is estimated at about 200 Rupees. The Sub-Collector is of opinion that there is still another man-eater creating terror in the Cherakal Taluq. I enclose copy of his report.

8. My own experience is that comparatively little injury is inflicted by individual alligators when their vast numbers are considered, and that it is scarcely worthwhile offering rewards except for known man-eaters.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

From the Sub-Collector, to the Collector of Malabar, dated Tellicherry, 24th September 1870,
No. 852,

I HAVE the honour to submit the report called for in the endorsement from your Office on Government Order, No. 392, dated 28th March 1870, regarding the results of the experimental measure of granting rewards for killing alligators.

2. During the past year, I have had periodical returns sent in, from the taluqs, of the number of cattle, etc., destroyed by these animals. The Tahsildars report that 13 cattle and 2 buffaloes have been carried off, the loss of property being about Rupees 200. No human beings are reported to have been killed by them during the year, with the exception of one K. Kannan, as already mentioned in my letter of 20th January last, No. 42.

3. Rewards have been granted for the destruction of 3 alligators; one killed in October measured over 11 feet; the second killed in January measured 7 feet and 3 inches, for which a

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reward was specially sanctioned in the Government Order above quoted; and third, killed in June close to Baliapatam ferry, measured $16\frac{1}{2}$ feet; so that the amount actually given in rewards during the year was Rupees 30.

4. The man whose death was reported was killed near Kavai, in the extreme north of Cherakal Taluq, while he was crossing a ford. None of the three alligators mentioned could possibly have been the one that killed him, so that there must still exist a man-eater somewhere in that neighbourhood, and so long as that is the case, there will be the same dread hanging over the people, preventing them from fishing or crossing fords on foot. The carrying off of a single individual causes great consternation and a feeling of insecurity all along the banks of the stream far from the actual spot. The only safe plan then is to give up fishing or crossing the streams except in boats, and this of course entails considerable hardship on the people, who are accustomed to depend, to some extent, on fishing for subsistence, as many of the poorer classes do, and the ordinary communications of the country are interrupted.

5. I think the rewards might be continued with advantage for another year, as considerable good has been done during the year under report. All the alligators for which rewards have been given were dangerous, and particularly the last one, which was well known in the neighbourhood from its great size, and by its having killed many cattle and several buffaloes, two of the latter belonged to one of the Adhigaries living in the neighbourhood. In its inside one or two hoofs of cattle were found. The rewards given for its capture was perhaps scarcely enough, as the man who caught it came from a distance, and took a great deal of trouble, and eventually secured it by a baited hook attached to a long rope.

6. I think that the present plan of giving rewards not exceeding Rupees 10 for all over $8\frac{1}{2}$ feet in length, is as good a plan as can be adopted; but, at the same time, I think we might usefully be empowered to grant rewards for those of a smaller size which may be proved to have been dangerous.

SUBMITTED to Government, with reference to Government Order, 22nd July 1869, No. 2,140.

2. The Board think the grant of rewards, not exceeding Rupees 10 for alligators above $8\frac{1}{2}$ feet in length, should be continued for another year. Cases such as those alluded to by the Sub-Collector where alligators are known to be dangerous, though less than $8\frac{1}{2}$ feet in length, may be disposed of as they arise.

No. 115. ORDER THEREON, 6th December 1870, No. 1,945.

Miscellaneous.

AGREEABLY to the recommendation of the Board, the Government resolve to continue for another year the grant of a reward not exceeding Rupees 10 for every alligator above eight and-a-half feet in length, killed in the Malabar District.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) W. HUDLESTON,
Secretary to Government.

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

Encl. F. R. Bantleman.

Revenue Department.
No. 1945-

Proceedings of the Madras Government.
Under date the 6th Decr. 1870.

Read the following
Proceedings of the Bd. of Revenue.

Subj. Jellie's report on results
of grant of rewards for destruction
of Alligators in Malabar. B.
H.E. 1st Nov. 1870. No. 6416

Agreeably to the recom-
-mendation of the Board, the
Govt. resolve to continue for
another year the grant of a
reward not exceeding Rs. 10
for every alligator above eight
and a half feet in length
killed in the Malabar
District.

Wm

14 Table of Revenue Department
H.E. 1st Nov. 1870. No. 6416

Sp. Secy

Govt. of Madras

REVENUE.

To

THE BOARD OF REVENUE.

cc. Ac. S.

Dated December, 6th.

Encl.

Recd.

G. O., 6th December 1870, No. 1,945.

DECEMBER.
Nos. 114-115.

Alligators in Malabar District.—Payment
of rewards for their destruction, ordered to be con-
tinued for another year.