Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
31st August 1871.

No. 334. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 17th August 1871, No. 3,506:—

Read the following letter from the Collector of the Godavery District, to the Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Cocanada, 13th July 1871, No. 237.

With reference to the accompanying copy of a letter from the Salt Deputy-Collector, I beg that the Board will sanction the full cost of storing the salt in this district being paid by Government, instead of as now partly by Government and partly by the manufacturers.

Enclosure No. 1.

From the Deputy-Collector in charge of Salt Department, to the Collector of the Godavery District, dated Patherlagedda, 12th July 1871, No. 17.

I have the honour to bring to your notice that a very objectionable practice exists here of making the manufacturers pay a portion of the cost of storing the salt, the rate of hire (Rs. 2-13-7 per heap) paid by the Government, which appears to have been fixed some 10 or 15 years ago, being so inadequate that the coolies engaged in the work could hardly earn three-fourths of the rate of hire which now-a-days they would get when employed in other works of the same nature.

2. The Superintendent says in his Arzi No. 290, dated 11th instant, herewith submitted for your perusal, that this practice was permitted verbally by the late Deputy-Collector Pantayya Garoo about four years ago, it having been found impossible then to get the work done for the fixed rate of hire, and the manufacturers having preferred this system to supplying labour demanded from them for the purpose. Accordingly, the manufacturers pay 8 or 10 Annas for each heap, which, added to the amount paid by the Government, makes a total of Rs. 3-7-7, and the Superintendent considers it impracticable to get the work done under that sum; and he recommends that if the manufacturers are to be relieved from the obligation, the existing rate of hire should be altered from Rs. 2-13-7 to Rs. 3-8-0 per heap, or 5 Pies more than what the coolies actually receive at present.

To be returned when no longer required.

3. I fully concur with the Superintendent in thinking that the existing rate is inadequate, and that it should be increased as proposed by him; and I have accordingly directed him to pay the coolies at that rate (Rupees 3-8-0 per heap), but not to recover any portion of it from the manufacturers until your opinion on the point is known.

4. The reasonableness of the Superintendent's proposal is obvious, inasmuch as the Board raised the Coodeveram in Fusly 1276 from Rupees 7-8-0 to Rupees 10 per garce, on the ground that owing to the increased demand for labour the manufacturers were obliged to pay higher rates of wages to their workmen than in previous years. The present rate of hire for storing salt was fixed at the same time when the old rate of Coodevaram prevailed, and I am sure that it would have been raised too if a proper representation had been made at the time.

5. I request therefore that you will be good enough to sanction the full rate of hire as above to be debited to the Government, so that the objectionable practice referred to in paragraph 1 of this letter may be avoided. By adopting this course, the additional expense to Government will be about 100 Rs., which can be met from the savings in the contingent.

It is clearly stated in the Proceedings of Government, 12th May 1862, No. 1,043, Revenue Department, that the manufacturers are to be required, among other things, to provide labour for covering the heaps, *receiving payment for such duty.*

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
31st August 1871.

2. In their Proceedings dated 14th October 1868, No. 7,366, the Board, on application to afford to the Salt manufacturers in the Nellore District similar relief to that accorded in the Kistna District by sanctioning payment for covering salt heaps, sanctioned a uniform sum of Rs. 5 per every heap of 10 garce, with a further grant of 1 Rupee for every heap reopened, examined, and recovered.

3. It is evident that the rate now paid in the Godavery District, which was fixed 10 or 15 years ago, is insufficient, and the Board sanction payment at the rate proposed, namely, Rs. 3-8-0 per every heap of 10 garce, with the extra 1 Rupee for every heap reopened, etc., as above stated.

No. 335. ORDER THEREON, 31st August 1871, No. 1,487.

Separate Revenue, No. 22.
Salt.

APPROVED.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) W. HUDLESTON,
Secretary to Government.

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

10-Aug'71

Rev 1871. 2 Dep

Board of Revenue,

MADRAS. No 2778

PROCEEDINGS, 17TH AUGUST 1871, NO. 3,506.

Dep^t 24 Aug^t 71

Received. 28 Aug. Encl.

Exd. G. A. Turton.

14 Folios Copies & 2 Orders Rec^d & Issued

C. 30 Aug^t/71 R. 31^

AUGUST.

No 3,506.

Cost of storing salt—in Godavery District,—Payment to salt manufactures, of Rupees 3 8-0 per every heap of 10 garce on account of, with further grant of 1 Rupee for every heap re-opened examined and re covered, sanctioned.

No. 1487

Approved

V. F.

31 Aug^t/71