No. 182. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 27th June 1872, No. 1,124 :—

Read the following letter from R. K. PUCKLE, Esq., Collector of Tinnevelly, to the Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated 25th May 1872, No. 207.

I HAVE the honour to forward the Superintendent's Report on the examination of the Pearl Banks by the European Diver lately engaged by the Board.

2. The Diver has done his work very thoroughly, and has been down on 73 banks; on 43 of these he reports no results, but on 30 oysters were found.

3. The existence of oysters, though mostly in small quantities, shows that the banks are not entirely deserted as was at one time supposed, but there is nothing to induce the belief that a fishery will take place within any given period.

4. This examination of the banks by a European Diver confirms the reports of the Native Divers as borne out by occasional dredging, and virtually there has been nothing discovered that was not known before.

5. There is but little difference of opinion among authorities on the subject ; all seem to agree that the under-currents and the formation of sand on some banks, the deposit of mud on others, the ravages of the Skate and Parrot fish, and the moorings of fishing canoes, destroy the oysters here and there, while no one can give an opinion as to how the oysters may best be matured. The only practical suggestion offered is that of the Jadi Talavan, who would prohibit fishing on certain banks and watch if the oysters now known to exist there increase ; this can be easily done, and with the Board's permission I will carry out this suggestion.

6. I enclose statements taken by me from the European and Native Divers ; the Parmandadi who shows the banks, the Jadi Talavan or head of the Fisherman caste, and the Tindal of the " Margaret Northcote."

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

From G. A. PHIPPS, Esq., Superintendent of Pearl Banks, to the Collector of Tinnevelly, dated Tuticorin, 17th May 1872, No. 10.

THE examination of the Pearl Banks on this and the coast of Madura being now completed, I have the honour to forward the usual report, and regret that the state of the banks is not more favourable, but finding oysters in so many places, and the knowledge that some of the Ceylon banks have become stocked, makes me hopeful that those on this side are about to be again profitable.

2. Of 73 banks examined, 30 have oysters to a small extent ; and off Paumben I found on one bank an immense quantity of young ones attached to sea-weed ; if they remain until next year, they will be valuable. At present no reliance can be placed upon oysters of this description, and time only will show if they, on becoming older and heavier, will adhere to the bank itself.

3. The examination has also shown that oysters do now exist in small quantities on the banks off Pinnacoil ; on one of these the Divers reported rather a large quantity about one year old ; they were lying very thick, but the patch was of small extent, and amongst them were a great quantity of dead shells.

4. The Jadi Talavan seems to think that some steps should be taken to prevent the fishermen from fishing on this part of the coast, and I should be very glad if it could be done, for there is no doubt that the stones used for their anchors, if they fall on oysters, must crush all underneath. If the oysters were of an age to be valuable I would recommend that a guard boat

be stationed, but at present I consider an order issued by yourself would be sufficient to obtain the protection needed. I fear the fishes called the Klattee and Skate are the greatest enemies the oysters now have.

5. In February I made a trip to a part of the Madura coast within Palk's Bay, which has not previously been examined; some oyster-shells having been found on the beach at a place called Passiputnum. On arrival at this village I obtained the assistance of some fishermen, who showed me three small patches of hard ground in 2¾ fathoms water; upon examination the Divers found no oysters and no dead shells. The parties who had reported the finding of the shells to the Collector promised to show me a bank in six fathoms, but upon proceeding in the direction pointed out I found that they had no marks, and after searching for some time we had to give it up. Next season I hope to devote more time to this part of the coast.

6. Mr. Eastland, the European Diver engaged at Madras, has accompanied me during a part of the inspection. He has used the boat "Pearl" for the diving apparatus. A report of his work was noted down at the close of each day, a copy of which I annex. His remarks regarding the banks seemed to agree with those of the Native Divers, and at times oysters were found by one and not seen by the other. Mr. Eastland is still here, and proceeds out to the banks when the weather is favourable. His agreement expires at the end of this month when he will return to Madras. I may mention that he has always been hard-working and willing, and although his agreement, I am told, provides for only three hours' work each day, upon explaining to him that this short time would not suit for the work we had to do he made no objection to our usual hours, and I have often kept him in the dress for six and longer without his complaining. The Assistant Diver refused to remain after the 15th April and then left for Colombo by a Native craft, from which he unfortunately fell over board and was drowned.

7. During this examination I have used in addition to the Divers an iron dredge. This has invariably brought up a fair sample of what the bottom consisted, and now and then a few oysters. It is, therefore, a very useful check upon the Native Divers, though I feel sure that they would be only glad to report oysters if they could find them.

8. The "Margaret Northcote" is in good order, and is kept as clean as circumstances will permit. If a dry dock was conveniently near I should be glad to see the vessel placed in it for the purpose of having the bottom properly coated with paint; this has not been done since she was launched. Upon the upper part of the hull and as low down as possible the paint is renewed often, while all shells, etc., are removed from the bottom by scrubbing and gentle scraping. In this way the speed is still kept up, though it is not equal to what was made during the trial trip.

9. The boat "Edith" is at Paumben in charge of the Master Attendant. Both the "Pearl" and "Edith" have been re-coppered and re-fastened during the last year. The iron-work was found to greatly injure the wood; it was therefore re-placed with brass and copper wherever practicable. These vessels are now in good order, and I am in hopes will last for many years. The "Edith" was found to be slightly attacked with dry rot, but to have taken out the parts affected would have nearly entailed the destruction of the entire hull. I was therefore able only to do what was possible to prevent it from going further.

10. Referring you to the annexed detailed statement of banks examined and their present condition, I have, etc.

ENCLOSURES Nos. 2 to 6.—Copies of statements taken from certain parties.

ENCLOSURE No. 7.—Memorandum by Mr. Eastland.

ENCLOSURE No. 8.—List of Pearl Banks examined during season 1871-72.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
22nd July 1872.

SUBMITTED for the information of Government.

2. The Board recommend that the suggestion that fishing should be prohibited on certain banks where oysters are known to exist should be carried out. The Collector and the Jadi Talavan appear sanguine that the restriction can be enforced. The young oysters adhere to the rocks and sea-weed in enormous numbers, though very minute; and it is evident that the dragging of a stone anchor over the bottom must destroy them by thousands.

3. The operations of the European Diver have merely confirmed previous reports as to the state of the banks. The Board have received with pleasure Captain Phipps's favourable report as to the way in which Mr. Eastland has done his work.

4. The Board request Mr. Puckle to forward a few specimens of pearl oyster-shells for distribution to Collectors of coast districts and to be placed in the Central Museum.

No. 183. ORDER THEREON, 22nd July 1872, No. 1,100.

Miscellaneous.

THE Government approve the suggestion to stop fishing on the Pearl Oyster Banks, and desire that the Collector will carry it out.

2. The examination appears to have been very thorough. The Government regret that it is not more encouraging.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) W. HUDLESTON,
Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue.

Exd. F. R. Bantleman.

Fm Mem C92 1990/73

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Memo by Mr Eastland.

2 March 1872. Proceeded in the Guard Boat "Pearl" at Day Light and reached the Nagara Bar, put on Dress and went down, found no Oysters the bottom Rock and old shells mostly covered with Sea weed, from this proceeded to the Oobe Par Klatee Bar and Oodoorooree Bar, in one place found some very young Oysters attached to Sea Weed, in this way I walked over four miles carefully Examining the Ground, at 1 P.M. came up and set sail for the Shore, the water was clear and I could see all round me easily for 30 or 40 Yards.

Signed J. P. Eastland, Submarine Miner.

4th March 1872 "Pearl" left at Day Light and proceeded to the Cracan Bar, put on Dress went down found no Oysters, the Bank much covered with Sand, water not clear, remained down one hour and came up and afterward went to the Tholaytan Bar, on this Bank found some dead Pearl Shells but did not see one live Oyster, the Ground on this Bank seemed very hard, the water clear and I could see for about 30 Yards all round me, 2 P.M. came up and set Sail for the Shore

Signed J. P. Eastland Submarine Miner

5th March. Proceeded this morning at 7 o'clock on board the Schooner "Pearl" went down Padoothamaie Par and found nothing but Sand, also the Nature River went down, came up and told me to come up, the water was a little thick I came up

after being down one hour and proceeded to another Bank Three Fms. After going down on the second occasion I found a small Quantity of Rock but no Oysters of any description the water being thick the same as before I could see 4 or 5 Yards. After examining for 2 hours I came up for the Schooner. Drifted off the Bank I came to nothing but Sand and a few patches of weed. Set Sail and anchored at 3 P.M. off Chullas Thereo.

Signed J. P. Eastland Sub Marine Diver

6th March Weighed Anchor from under the Island and went down to the Bank Dyspade Caira Sar and found the water not very clear I could see around about 5 or 6 Yards and on examining found the bottom to consist of weed and sand the bottom was very hard but no Rock of any description and no Oysters to be seen small or big. I walked across the Bank and came on to nothing but clean Sand and then I came up and stood in for the harbour after being down about one hour, also the Native Diver went down several times and reported there was nothing.

Signed J. P. Eastland Sub Marine Diver.

8th March Went out at 7 A.M. reached Cannubbroo Hoospagam Par after going down found the water very thick, could not see the bottom, stopped there for about 15 minutes, Came above and Sailed to the harbour

Signed J. P. Eastland Sub Marine Diver

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9th March Went off but water very thick So came on Shore

11th March Went off at Day light. Found very light and was unable to reach any Bank, the Native Diver went down a few times but only brought up Stones as there was no Rock near

Signed J. P. Eastland Sub Marine Diver

12th March Proceeded out the Harbour this morning at 6 A.M. with the Schooner "Pearl" but could not reach the Bank before 10 A.M. The wind was very light all day. at 6 P.M. Let go the Anchor on the Bank and stopped all night. Telladia Light House bearing about S.W.

Signed J. P. Eastland Sub Marine Diver.

13th March At 6 A.M. this morning Got under way and proceeding in the mean time to find a Anchorage in the Bank "Fernandez Par" and found the water very thick indeed I could not see any thing. Came up & understood I could not see any thing Came up & understood & proceeded to another Bank "The Caprara Par" and came to this bank at about 1 P.M. Divers went down, the water was clear. I could see about 8 or 10 Yards and found the bottom to consist of a kind of red small gravel and old shells, the bottom was very hard, but no Oysters young nor old of any description to be seen. Brought up some of the pieces that I spell across for inspection and I came up & understood also the Native Diver went down and brought up the same but told me that there was no Oysters. Came ashore at 3 P.M.

Signed J. P. Eastland Sub Marine Diver

15th March Proceeded with the Schooner "Pearl" this morning at 6.20 A.M. and Reached one of the Banks Coothadian Bar, about 10 A.M. Dressed and went down found a great Quantity of weeds they being very thick I Carefully Examined them for about 3 hours, the bottom was also very hard but I found no Oyster. The Native Diver also went down Several times and brought up a few Stones the Same as Shold them for Spread I Came up and understood proceeded to another Bank Papeli Bar to Anchor the Schooner all Night, ready for Sailing the wind being very light at 8 P.M. Light house bearing W

(Signed) J. P. Eastland Sub Marine Diver

NB 16th March Got under weigh at 6.30 A.M. the wind being very light the Native Diver going down Several times and told me the water was Clear, Dressed and went down and found the bottom very hard and very weedy the Same as before I walked Some distance, but found nothing Came up Anchored at 12 A.M.

(Signed) J. P. Eastland, Sub Marine Diver.

19th March Left Tuticorin in the Steamer, in the afternoon Joined the Boat "Pearl" at Oopparlanni Teeroo

(Signed) J. P. E.

A Hamballam Pass

Andrew Scott Esq
Superintendent Pearl Fishery

20th March At day Light got under weigh and followed the Steamer to the Banks and at 8 A.M. Reached the Bank Anchored and went down and Examined the Bank found it hard & rocky, after being down for some time found one Pearl Oyster of 2 Years age Darkened to a Pena Shell, in some parts of the Bank there were a great number of the same kind of Shell but I Saw no more Oysters. The Native Diver who was also working from the "Pearl" found one Oyster also at the Same time that I did, after going down a Second time I found three more and the Native Diver found a like number. I Considr I walked over the bottom for 1½ miles, the Examination of the Bank being finished came up at 12 o'clock and followed the Steamer to Anna Par

(Signed) J. P. E.

21st March Got under weigh at Day-Light and followed the Steamer to the Karaikadry Banks at 8 A.M. Got on Shore and went down Remained for about 3½ hours walking over the bottom found nothing, the ground was hard mostly Rocky with not much weed. I did not see any dead Shells, in the afternoon made Sail to the Eastward but it fell Calm and had to anchor

(Signed) J. P. E.

22 March ... At Daylight Light Airs Westerly, Got under weigh, the Ship Eagle in sight at 2 P.M. Saw the Steamer Pelhamus and shortly afterwards got order to steer to the Westward at 8 P.M. came to an anchor near the Steamer at Pellia Mallai Seevoo

Signed J. P. E.

23 March ... At Daylight underweighed and also once got on deep and shortly afterwards went down on a Bank that has been buoyed by Captain Thispe Remained for some time but found no Oysters, the Rocks were covered with a light deposit of mud, Came up and again went down another Bank upon which a buoy has been placed, but found no Oysters, again went down at the Steamers Stern distance to the S.W. on another patch of Rock & at 1 P.M. for the last time on the Goomsburn Bar, here the water was not clear, on these Banks I saw no Oysters, in the evening we returned to Tuticorin.

Signed J. P. Eastland

26 March ... Left the harbour this morning with the Schooner "Pearl" at 7.30 A.M. Reached the Bank to the Eastward the wind being very light sent the Native Diver down Found the water clear Native Diver found one Oyster 2 years old on deep Went down and found hard ground & Stones but no Large Rock of any description. Walked a short distance and then came up, the water was very clear Stood to the Southward a little and left the anchor on another Bank.

Signed J. P. Eastland Sub Marine Diver

27th March ... At the beginning the wind was very light & Shortened in to Cable, Got the Native Diver down found a few small Rocks and a few patches of weed, Did not find any Oysters, after Diving a short distance Came up, Stopped in the Deep about one hour, Came to another Bank, the Native Diver found another small Oyster, dressed and went down on Rock on the Second occasion and found we had passed over the Banks after walking some distance Came on to nothing but Sand, the wind being very light & an under Current found nothing Came up and Stood in for Tuticorin.

Signed J. P. Eastland Sub Marine Diver

3 April ... Left Tuticorin in the Pearl, wind light from S.E. passed Gwels point Channel and worked towards Pinnacle at 2 P.M. anchored.

4th April. ... Got underweigh at 6 A.M. and steered to the Eastward, Rajaroota Shoal Bar was first Bank Examined, found it a little Rocky, no Large Rocks Rough bottom and hard water clear found no Oysters, the Native Diver went down also but found nothing.

Signed J. P. Eastland Sub Marine Diver

5th April. ... Got underweigh at 6 A.M. Stood to the S.E. at 9 A.M. fell in with the Steamer and was towed to windward at 9.30 when down on the Saith Coodamoothee Bar & Nadoo Coodamoothee Bar, walked for 1/2 miles

fully over these Banks found fine Oysters and the Native Divers got the same number, this Bank was hard and composed of Coral rocks in small pieces very rough and similar to the Bank examined yesterday at 1 P.M. - anchored near the Steamer in the Poodoo Par - Three hours work this day.

Signed J. P. Eastland Submarine Diver

6 April. Got underweigh at Day light and Steamed taken in tow by Steamer and went down in the Kadian and Kanava Par found no Oysters, walked for some distance found the bottom hard with pieces of Coral rock, Came up and was again taken in tow by Steamer to the Geraltee Coodamoottee Par went down on this Bank and after walking some distance Came upon Young Oysters indeed with Dead Shells of 1 Year age the quantity of Dead Shells was very Large the bottom being thickly covered for some distance, the quantity of live Oysters Seemed Large, the Dead Shells has the appearance of having been bitten by some fish, in some parts I noticed that the Sand seemed to be drifting over the Bank and the Dead Shells were amongst the Sand, after coming up were again taken in tow and afterwards went down on the Pellhan Par. This is a Small Bank of hard Rock in 10 Fathoms water found no Oysters, Came up and proceeded to Tuticorin, this Day I worked for 6 hours.

Signed J. P. Eastland Submarine Diver

9th April. Left Tuticorin in company with Steamer proceeded towards Pinna Coil wind and Sea unfavourable returned and anchored at Devils Point.

Signed J. P. E.

10th April At Day Light underweighed and joined the Steamer kept to the Eastward but with a Strong wind felt to leeward at 10 A.M. Examined a Patch of hard ground off Trichendoor found no Oysters at 2 P.M anchored close to Steamer. one hour this day.

Signed J. P. E.

11th April. At Day Light underweighed and set on decks at 7 A.M. went down on the Karia Kadooral Par, on this bank the Native Divers found a few young Oysters, and the Dredge brought a number of dead shells found hard but no large rocks, after this I went down on the Velango Kadooral Par. This seems a large patch and I saw three large pieces of Rock, the ground was hard and covered with Coral stalks. No Oysters were found by myself or the Native Divers, the next Bank was the Codakarie Par. This Bank is nearly composed of live Coral rocks and I saw no sign of a Pearl Oyster, there was a good deal of weed and the bottom was also white Coral rock up in heaps with a variety of depths from 8½ to 12 Fathoms, the Divers are much worn and I am obliged to be careful in using them

on the morning anchored by Steamer on Manapaad Bank Four hour work this day

(Signed) J. P Eastland Submarine Diver.

15th April 1866. 30 Hour up and made for the Bank, dressed and went down, found the bottom hard and composed of flat rocks and some perpendicular and very rough, found a small Quantity of weed which were all in motion with the wash of the sea and I was also moved by the undulation. No Oysters were observed though I examined the bottom closely. Came up and went down a second time, during which the "Pearl" drifted a considerable distance, after coming on Land I came up and understood the depth on this Bank was from 4 to 6 fathoms the Rock was steep to on one side and the other sloped down to and fro gradually; Five hours work this day.

(Signed) J. P Eastland Sub marine Divr.

17th April At Day Light dressed and went down on the Bank found no Oysters, a great deal of weed on Barnacles, the weed was all in motion, the Sand appears to have formed over the bottom and is kept there by the Barnacles.

Shanady Poole Soodiha Par.

On this Bank I found a great number of round pieces of Coral, no Oysters and no so much weed.

Annumbukka Par

Sunkhamaw Soodiha Par

This is a rocky Bank no Oysters were found a good deal of weed and some Sand.

Soonchotta Par

This is an extensive Bank on large Rocks but all in small pieces, no Oysters were found no much weed, but a good deal of Sand. These last Banks were more Sandy than any I have yet seen, and with a Ground Swell so strong that it was with difficult I could retain my position, at 1 P.M. finished work and left for Tuticorin anchored at 4 P.M. this day I worked for Quite six hours.

(Signed) J. P Eastland Sub marine Divr.

20th April Went out in the Motor yacht stopped on the Vada Ombathoo Par dressed and went down, found that the Bank was Dry and small and I found no Oysters, the Bank is hard and composed of small pieces of Stone & Coral, the water not very clear, the bottom Divr brought up some pieces of Stone.

(Signed) J. P. E

22nd April Left in the Motor yacht and proceeded to the Vaith Ombathoo Par found the Bank hard and rocky, with Sand in parts and surroundings in a good deal of a kind of Sponge attached to the Rock and overlaid with Sand, remained five hour down, found no Oysters, Came

up at 1 P.M. and made Sail for the Shore, the Native Divers found no Oysters

(Signed) J. P. Eastland Sub Marine Divr.

23d April Left on Pearl at Daylight with the Steamer at 9 A.M. reached the Palaiyan Tondoo Par & Canar Pendatar Par took dresses and went down found the Bank hard, but no Large Rocks no Oysters found, after diving down for some time came on Board and Shelly, came up afterwards went to the Parcodaingan Par and Nengoreichan Par. I went down on these also found them very small and only saw one piece of Stone. Came up & was towed to the South part of the Tholoyyam Par. This I found to be a large Bank the bottom hard & Rocky, clear & free from any deposits. I found no Oysters and saw no dead shells. Came up & took off dresses.

The dresses is this day very leaky & much chafed inside, the water on the Bank was very clear and Sea Calm the Native Divers with me found no Oysters.

(Signed) J. P. Eastland Sub Marine Divr.

24th April Calm all day was unable to get down as the Steamer was working at a distance and I did not get near any Banks.

25th April Wind very light at Daylight underweigh, got dresses and went down on the Kadaiyan Tondoo Par. This Bank is small & composed of Shelly, on this Bank I found some Oysters from 6 months to 2½ Years age, the quantity is small and joined with the Steamer, hoisted Signal and called attention of the Steamer which came & took

examined it with the same result. Salem continued & Now made Sail for Showdree Par off Trichinopoly.

(Signed) J. P. Eastland.

26th April At Daylight Trichendore Parmanady came on board, no wind could do nothing and with a strong Current was unable to tow the Vessel and with a Canoe, after some time got close to the Bank with a Canoe, after some time got close to the Bank and went down but the Current has drifted the Boat and I went down on the same and we were unable to get the Boat again into position, sent the Canoe & detained Diver away to the Bank, who reported that it was rocky but they found no Oysters. The fresh water being done made Sail for the Steamer and was directed to proceed to Tuticorin.

The Dress still is serviceable though leaks a good deal

(Signed) J. P. Eastland Sub Marine Divr.

29th April Went out in the "Pearl" to the Puthoorey Aroopagam Par. went down found the Bank hard and rocky, the water was not clear & I could not see the ground, the Native Diver brought up one Oyster of 2½ Years age. Came up & came on Shore

(Signed) J. P. Eastland Sub Marine Divr.

7th May Left Tuticorin in the "Pearl" at 6 A.M. Wind West, at 10 A.M. reached the Tholoyyam Par, Examined the North part and was down for one hour, found no Oysters, the Bank Rocky & hard, the Native Diver was down with me but found nothing, came up and proceeded to the Thondoo Par and again went down but still found no Oysters at 1 P.M. Came up and set Sail for Tuticorin, this Day the Water was not very clear

(Signed) J. P. Eastland

8th May. Left Tuticorin at 6 A.M. Wind West and very light at 10 A.M. reached the Cruxcan Par A and went down remained for about an hour walking about but found no Oysters, it is all hard piece of Rock with. out loose Stones the water was Clear and I could see some distance on our part. the Land had covered the bottom, the Native Diver found nothing also.

Signed J. P. Eastland Sub Marine Diver

17th May. Wind very light went out in the Pearl at 6 A.M. at 11 o'Clock reached the Nadoothondo Par, dressed & went down found the Bank hard, Large Rocks, a good Quantity of Dead Shell of different Sorts found no Pearl Oyster, the Native Diver was down with me and found nothing, it is a Small Bank, the water was Clear and I could see for four Yards round. I remained down for one hour & then came up and set Sail for Tuticotin reached at 3 P.M.

Signed J. P. Eastland Sub Marine Diver.

Five Specs

Signed G. A. Phipson
Superintendent of Pearl Banks

11

List of Pearl Banks Examined during the Season 1871-72

Aff Tuticotin

Karee Par
Cavie Par
Pernado Par

These are Extensive patches of Rocky ground. No Oysters were found

Aff Cumbar

Pood Thycoy Chilly Par
Vellangoolam Par
Coomoolum Par

No Oyster.

Nagara Par

Large Quantity of Young Oyster on one small part adhering to Sea weed.

Collee Par

Some Young Oyster on weed.

Aff Tuticotin

Podootoovee Par

This Bank is thickly covered with weed but no Oysters.

Kallee Par
Weed only. No Oyster found.

Athoovoy Aruppagam Par.
No Oysters, plenty of Weed.

Athombadu Par
The Bank Quite bare

Passi Par
Pathara Par
Very small Banks, one Oyster of 3 years age brought up.

Tholayeram Par, South part.
This is a very extensive Bank, we remained upon it for three hours during which the Divers brought up 5 Oysters of 3 year age

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Crusean Par
Bank Quite bare

Crusean Tondoo Par
Some Young Oysters on Sea weed.

Kooda Par
One Oyster found.

Off Tuticorin.

Off Tuticorin

Tuttee Marakan Par
No Oysters found. Weed only

Karei Par
Davee Par
These Banks were re-examined a second time
No Oysters found.

Velangoo Thondoo Par
This is a new patch of very good rocky ground found by the Shank Divers last year from a previous year and upon which a few Oysters were then seen, we now found two of 1½ year age, but the Bank is too small and has too much sand over it to be of any value

---

Rocky Ground off Nulla Tannee Thoo.
These Patches are very extensive and were closely examined, but no Oysters found.

Tapisputnum Banks (Palk's Bay)
Left Tapisputnum with Canoes & Steered to the S.S. for four miles, sent down Divers in 2¾ Fathoms and found the bottom hard, the patches of rock extended for ¼ of a mile but were so narrow that the two Canoes could not work alongside of each other. What the Divers brought up were small pieces of Stone and dead Shells slightly coated with mud. No Pearl Oyster Shells were found.

A new Bank in 6 fathoms.

With the Fishermen who reported the existence of this Bank on board we steamed out from Passipoutnam, viz N.E. by N. then E & E by S deepening the water gradually to 5, 6 & 7 fathoms, sand and mud bottom finding no Bank and the sand being out of sight the men informed me that they had no marks and the principal that he had not been out for 5 Years. After Searching for 25 miles toward Pumbon we had to abandon the idea, our coals being short.

Vambar Peria Par
St Patricks Bank.

This is an Extensive Bank and we remained upon it for the whole Instrum. The Dredge brought up one Oyster and the Divers 16. they were all attached to Pinna Shells there being plenty on the Bank and also some Barnacles.

JJ Vambar

Valinookum Par

Found three Oysters of two Years age

JJ Valinookum Point.

Keelakary Par

Two Oysters found.

JJ Keelakary.

Thekamoodaly Seedoo Par

One Oyster found.

Pumbon Channa Par

20 Oysters of a Year up to 3 Years found

Pumbon Peria Par

On this Bank a deposit of Mud has fallen and for a considerable distance the bottom and weeds were thickly covered with young Oysters, the Quantity is of course immense the Canoes and Steamer were several Chundrs Yards apart and the Signal for finding Oysters was continually flying. Under the Circumstances it was not desirable to remain any time fearing to disturb them.

JJ Pumbon

Rocky Ope of Thekamoodaly Seedoo

On this we also found Young Oysters in Considerable Quantities.

Model Seedoo Par

Oysters of three Years age brought up.

Delia Mallie Seedoo Par.

No Oysters. Some Sootum in one part.

JJ Keelakary

Ana Par

One Oyster found.

JJ Valinookum Point

Valla Tanne Teevoo Banks
Nothing found

Odfoo Tanne Teevoo Par
and
Coomoolum Par
On the latter Bank, one Oyster was found.

Poodoo Par
four Oysters of 1 Year old found.

Kanava Par
Kadian Par
On these Banks a few Oysters from one to 3 years of age were found.

Poodoo Par
On one part of this Bank, the Divers came upon a patch of Young Oysters of about one Year age mixed with dead Shells, the latter having the appearance of having been bitten by Fish.
These Oysters if found alive next Year will be Valuable as the Quantity seems large.

Selthan Par
Bare

Neilen Cullon Padmaroo Par.
Neilen Cullon Pattarei Par.
Sangooriah Pattarei Par
Satoo Guriah Padmaroo Par.
The four patches of Spat found are supposed only one Bank being close together.
The Divers found only three Oysters of a few months age

Kari Karwel Par
found a few Young Oysters mixed with dead Shells.

Delangoo Karwel Par
No Oysters found.

Podakarie Par
No Oysters

Manapaud Par
This is one of our largest Banks and we devoted the whole morning to its Examination. Four Oysters found. The wash from the Sea was so great that both European and Native Divers complain that it was difficult to maintain their position on the bottom, on one part much weed was found.

Pt Pinnacoil

Pt Trichinopoly

Pt Manapaud

Mullowoy & Woolpagam Par
One Oyster found.

Cruxan Par
No Oysters

Gajavokoo Chippa Par
Coodamoothee Par
Sinna Coodamoothee Par
No Oysters

Moova Par
Nadoo Thondoo Par
No Oysters

Pearl Fishery Office
Tuticorin 17th May 1872

Signed G. A. Phipps
Superintendent of Pearl Banks.

True Copies

R K Ruthe
Collector

Rec. 22/7/72

Copy

Recd with R 4/6
22 July 1872

No 2297
Rev 1872. Sept.

Board of Revenue,

MADRAS.

PROCEEDINGS, 27TH JUNE 1872, No. 1,124.

Dep.t 8 July 72

Encl. 1
to 2

Received 12th July 72

JUNE.

No. 1,124.

Pearl Banks—on coasts of Madura and Tinnevelly.—Letter from Tinnevelly Collector forwarding, with remarks, report of Superintendent of Pearl Banks on examination of —, submitted to Government. Collector's suggestion that fishing should be prohibited on certain banks where Oysters are known to exist, recommended to be carried out. Collector requested to forward a few specimens of Pearl Oyster shells.

Write Order
No 1100 - 22 July 1872.