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*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
19th August 1872.*

No. 162. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 3rd August 1872, No. 1,485:—

Read the following letters:—

From J. W. BREEKS, Esq., Commissioner of the Nilgiris, to the Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Ootacamund, 22nd February 1872, No. 26.

REFERENCE Government Order, 18th November 1871, No. 1,963.

1. As reported in my letter to the Board of the 16th August 1869, No. 116-A, to which I beg leave to refer, there are no indigenous fish on the Nilgiris with the exception of a small minnow about two inches in length.

In 1866 Dr. Day, and subsequently Mr. McIvor, introduced certain Indian and European fish into the Ootacamund lake, which, however, is so large and so full of weeds that I am unable to discover whether the fish have thriven.

2. Formerly a few of these indigenous minnows were caught in the lake and streams adjacent and sold, but not to any extent, and latterly the practice has entirely disappeared. I cannot find a net of any kind in the place now.

3. I know of no objection against prohibiting the capture of fish on the Nilgiris for the first two months of the monsoon season.

4. The only fish sold in the bazaar here are salt-fish brought up from Coimbatore.

From R. J. MELVILLE, Esq., Acting Collector of Vizagapatam, to the Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated 26th March 1872, No. 215.

REFERRING to the Board's Proceedings, No. 4,350, dated 30th November 1871, and to Dr. Day's Report on the Fish and Fisheries of the fresh waters of India, I have the honour to refer the Board to Mr. Minchin's letter, No. 429, dated 17th July 1869, in which it is reported "that the fresh-water fisheries of this district are utterly insignificant, the rivers being mere hill streams dry for the greater portion of the year, and that there are few tanks of sufficient size to make fishing in them of any consequence." Such being the case it is impossible to furnish replies to the questions put by Dr. Day.

From R. K. PUCKLE, Esq., Collector of Tinnevely, to the Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Sankaranainarkovil, 27th March 1872, No. 104.

IN reply to the Board's Proceedings, No. 4,350, dated 30th November 1871, I have the honour to inform you that our principal river is but little fished, and hardly at all with nets.

2. Those nets I have seen are the ordinary cast net of small mesh, but even these are rarely used. Small fish are caught in baskets and screens at the rapids below waste weirs and sluices, and larger fish are caught with the hook. In the small rivers, channels, and tanks the water left in the pools in the dry season is baled out and the fish are caught with the hand. There are no prescriptive rights of fishing, on the contrary the fish in certain parts of the river are carefully preserved and fed; these are mostly a species of carp.

From W. D. HORSLEY, Esq., Collector of Cuddapah, to the Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Lomada, 27th March 1872, No. 47.

With reference to the Order of Government, No. 1,963, dated 18th November 1871, communicated by the En-

* 30th November 1871.

dorsement* of the Board, Miscellaneous

No. 4,350, I have the honour to report that there are no fish of any importance in this district. Occasionally in what are called madugus, or deep pools in the beds of rivers, a large fish is caught, but such hauls are very rare indeed. Very small fish, with a disagreeably bitter taste, are found in tanks pretty generally.

2. There are no perennial streams in this district, and with but few exceptions is water to be found in a tank all the year round. The madugus I have mentioned are covered by the freshes generally more than once a year. It is, therefore, quite impossible to attempt any improvement in the breed of fish, there being no habitable water for them.

3. Fishing as a trade is not pursued in this district. The supply of fish is small, and there are no means of increasing it.

4. In these circumstances legislation is not called for, and I consider it unnecessary to collect the information required by Dr. Day.

From R. W. BARLOW, Esq., Acting Collector of Chingleput, to the Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Covelong, 18th April 1872, No. 153.

In reply to the Proceedings of the Board, Miscellaneous No. 4,350, dated 30th November 1871, I have the honour to forward replies to the queries proposed by Dr. Day for Collectors as well as for Native officials, but must observe that all tanks and rivers of this district are usually dry in the hot weather, with the exception of a few of the larger tanks, and even these dry occasionally; we are dependant, therefore, for our fresh-water fish supply merely on what is brought down by the annual river floods during the monsoons to the tanks and channels, or on ova or other vitality remaining dormant in the mud of the tank beds during hot season.

2. In future years the Red Hills, Sholaveram and Chembrambakum tanks may remain full from year to year, but elsewhere preservation of fish in this district cannot be carried out. I may mention here that I propose to introduce, as an experiment, a few of the more valuable and prolific kinds of fresh-water fish from the Mysore territory into the Red Hill tank this year after the monsoon.

3. In these replies I have, of course, taken no account of the sea and back-water fisheries, in respect of which the district is well off.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

Replies to queries proposed for Collectors.

- 1.—Fish of all sizes and in every state, if good for food, are caught whenever possible.
- 2.—In the dry season during April, May, June, and July all the tanks and rivers of this district gradually become dry; all fish are netted or otherwise caught when the water gets low.
- 3.—No restriction as to the size of mesh is in force in this district.
- 4.—None; but there is no necessity for such regulation for the present.
- 5.—No answer necessary.
- 6.—None; but no fry worth preserving exists in the district.
- 7.—Such prohibition in the breeding season would be doubtless advisable in such hilly districts where useful fish exist.

(Signed) R. W. BARLOW,
Acting Collector.

ENCLOSURE No. 2.

Replies to queries proposed for the Native officials.

- 1.—Exclusive of fishermen who catch salt-water fish no class of individuals follow fishing as an occupation; the lower agricultural classes catch fish in the dry season, and a considerable number of persons fish partly for amusement, and partly to supply their own table.
- 2.—Coast fishermen are called Pattanavers, Carayars, Sembadavers, Bestavers, and Minpallies
- 3.—The markets are badly supplied with fresh-water fish, except in the dry months. Fresh-water fish could be readily sold inland, where the salt-water fish supply cannot easily reach if more was available.
- 4.—Prices vary a good deal; 1st and 2nd sort bazaar mutton at about Annas 4 and Annas 3, respectively, per pound. Tank fish about a foot and a half long 8 Annas each, and less according to size.
- 5.—Great bulk of the population eat fresh-water fish freely when procurable.
- 6.—Supply of fish remains stationary, but it should be noted here that all tanks and rivers in this district dry during hot season.
- 7.—When the floods are out a good number of small fish are caught in the channels by means of net-like baskets made of split bamboo, etc.
- 8.—Some of the nets used have such small meshes that nothing can escape through them.
- 9.—Not to any extent. After floods fish are, however, taken on irrigated fields as the water subsides.
- 10.—By net (வலை), bamboo, etc., baskets of different kinds known as அலவுபறி, தூறி, கச்சால், ஊற்றூல்; rod and line (தூண்டுமுள்).

(Signed) R. W. BARLOW,
Acting Collector.

From T. A. N. CHASE, Esq., Collector of Kurnool, to the Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated 20th April 1872, No. 122.

With reference to Board's Proceedings, dated 30th November 1871, Miscellaneous No. 4,350, I have the honour to forward copy of my reply on the fish and fisheries, dated 25th February 1869, No. 47, as I have nothing more to add on the subject.

2. Reports of Division Officers, and translations of the reports from the Tahsildars on the same subject, are herewith sent.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
19th August 1872.*

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

From T. A. N. CHASE, Esq., Collector of Kurnool, to the Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated 25th February 1869, No. 47.

With reference to Circular Memorandum, No. 115, dated 12th February 1869, calling on me to report on fish, the means used for killing them, and whether these should be repressed and by what means, I have the honour to inform you that—

2. The chief rivers in this district are part of the Kistna, a part of the Tungabudra, the Hindry, Bonassy, Kundu, Jurer, the Suggaler, and the Gundlakamma; with the exception of the two first all the others dry up more or less in the hot season.

3. In the Kistna and Tungabudra very large fish are caught both by nets and with rods near the villages on their banks. There is a long extent of the Kistna which has no villages on the banks, and which is never fished in. This reach may be looked on as a large breeding place which is seldom approached by man and where the fish are undisturbed.

4. As regards the other rivers which dry up when they are full of water, which is only for a small time during the year, probably the larger fish escape into the larger rivers and tanks, for as these small rivers dry there are only very small fish to be found. They are caught in nets with small meshes. Regarding these it is unnecessary to say more than that if these were not caught and consumed by man they would simply be dried up by the heat of the sun and rot.

5. I would deprecate in the strongest terms against any measures being taken by Government to interfere with the fish supply of the inhabitants of this district.

6. The only way in which Government could interfere would be by means of an establishment of subordinates who would avail themselves of their authority to practice extortion and oppress the poor, (who are generally the only people to fish,) and never really repress the distinction of fish.

7. If anything could repress their distinction to any extent it would be the forbidding to catch fish with roe; but this would be tant amount to depriving the people of a wholesome and pleasant diet, and interfere with the great traffic in fish-roe which now takes place.

8. Some fish too are only good for eating when heavy with roe, such as the Sable, caught extensively by means of baskets hung over the water as it falls over the Tungabudra anicut.

9. I would strongly recommend leaving the natives alone regarding the fish and its means of capture, and I think I may safely say that, considering the extraordinary reproductiveness of fish and the fine reaches of the Kistna near which the foot of man never approaches, let man use every appliance he can think of for taking fish he will never be able to affect the supply in any appreciable way as regards this district, and I sincerely trust that whatever measures may be adopted in Canara or in other districts may not be made applicable to Kurnool.

(True Copy.)

(Signed) T. A. N. CHASE,
Collector.

ENCLOSURE No. 2.

Replies to the questions regarding the Fish and Fisheries as called for in Docket No. 44, dated 15th January 1872.

Are breeding fish and very young ones destroyed in your district to any great extent? No, not to any great extent.

If they are destroyed, how, in what places, and in what seasons? There is no doubt that fish of all sorts are destroyed in the hot season; in tank beds and rivers nets are used.

What is the smallest size of the mesh of nets allowed or employed in your district? A very small sized mesh is used.

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What difficulties are there against regulating the size of the mesh of nets?

As far as this division is concerned I think it would be altogether impracticable.

What size between knot and knot of the meshes of nets do you consider advisable?

What objections exist against prohibiting the sale of the fry of fish in the bazaars?

The fry of fish are very little sold in the bazaars in this division. The Tahsildar says not at all. The fry of fish is generally caught only for individual consumption.

Are there any objections against prohibiting the capture of fish in hilly districts as the Hymalayas or Nilgiris for the first two months of the monsoon season when they are breeding?

MARKAPURAM,
20th February 1872.

(Signed) C. TURNER,
Actg. Head Asst. Collector.

ENCLOSURE No. 3.

From D. TIMMAPAH, Deputy Collector of Peapally, to the Collector of Kurnool, dated Pattikonda, 6th March 1872, No. 25.

With reference to your Docket, No. 44, dated 15th January 1872, giving enclosure to a set of questions on the fish and fisheries, I have the honour to submit my replies to those queries as directed.

ENCLOSURE 1 IN No. 3.

Questions.

Answers.

1.—Are breeding fish and very young ones destroyed in your district to any great extent?

1.—There are no rivers in the division under my charge. The fish in the tanks, etc., are indiscriminately destroyed whether they may be breeding fish or young ones.

2.—If they are destroyed, how, in what places, and in what seasons?

2.—They are destroyed chiefly by means of nets, and in some cases by angling. There is no particular season for destroying fish in this part of the country; the people that are of that profession go on with it throughout the year.

3.—What is the smallest size of the mesh of nets allowed or employed in your district?

3.—The smallest size of the mesh of nets employed is one-fourth of an inch or thereabouts.

4.—What difficulties are there against regulating the size of the mesh of nets?

4.—The fish in most of the tanks being very small the regulating the size of mesh of nets to a greater degree will prove a failure in the pursuits of fishermen, and therefore I consider the regulating of the mesh of nets should depend on the size of fish found in different localities.

5. What size between knot and knot of the meshes of nets do you consider advisable?

5.—I consider half an inch for this part of the country is advisable.

6. What objections exist against prohibiting the sale of the fry of fish in the bazaars?

6.—I think it advisable to prevent the destruction of very small fish, and therefore the sale of the fry of fish in the bazaars may be prohibited.

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7.—Are there any objections against prohibiting the capture of fish in hilly districts as the Himalaya or the Nilgiris for the first two months of the monsoon season when they are breeding?

PATTIKONDA,
6th March 1872.

7.—There are no hilly parts in my division.

(Signed) D. TIMMAPAH,
Deputy Collector.

ENCLOSURE No. 4.

From C. L. B. CUMMING, Esq., Assistant Collector, to the Collector of Kurnool, dated 5th April 1872, No. 44.

I HAVE the honour to submit, herewith, translations of replies furnished by the Tahsildar of Ramalkota and Deputy-Tahsildar of Kurnool on reference being made by me to questions on the fish and fisheries received with your Docket, No. 44, dated 15th January 1872.

ENCLOSURE 1 IN No. 4.

Replies by the Tahsildar of Ramalkota.

1.—Fish of all sorts are caught together in a net and all destroyed. Fish of these particular sorts are not purposely caught.

2.—Except when there are floods in the rivers, and the tanks are full during heavy rains, fish are caught in all other seasons by nets, fishing hooks, and baskets so made that fish may easily get into them and be there caught, (కొడమలు) Kodimalu.

3.—The size of the smallest hole of the nets used is about that of a grain of dhol (పొడలంబ).

4.—The largest river in the taluq is the Tungabudra. Fish, and especially very large ones, are found only to a small extent in that river and in the irrigation canal supplied by it. Nets are now made according to fishermen's will so as to catch small fish also. It may be prescribed that nets with other (bigger) sorts of holes should be made. This would cause no trouble, as there are no poor people in this taluq living by fishing only.

5.—The nets and kodimalu may have holes of the size of a two Anna piece. By this means small fish of all sorts may be enabled to escape.

6.—Fish are caught and sold. If the sale of that sort (small fish) is prohibited there can be no objection.

7.—Tanks and rivers are full during the rainy season, and in that season fish multiply. During that season, therefore, there is no objection to prohibiting by enactment their being caught in hilly tracts and other places.

(True Translation.)

(Signed) C. L. B. CUMMING,
Assistant Collector.

ENCLOSURE 2 IN No. 4.

Replies by the Deputy Tahsildar of Kurnool.

1.—Breeding fish are destroyed to a small extent in this district.

2.—They are caught first like other fish in tanks and rivers by nets and fishing hooks.

3.—Nets are of three sorts—

(1.) Nets left in the water. The size of the smallest hole of a net of this sort is half an inch square.

(2.) Nets thrown into water and then dragged. The size of the smallest hole here is about one-eighth of an inch square.

(3.) Nets thrown across shallow water. The size here is about one-sixth of an inch square.

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4.—It would not be expedient to limit by legislative enactment the size of the holes of the nets for the following reasons:—There is no good supply of water except during the monsoon. Many tanks contain water only for two or three months in the monsoon and are dried up during the rest of the year. Though there are some tanks in which water stand for a longer time even they are dry during the hot season. Small channels and ponds get dry before the fish can grow large, and if people are prohibited from catching small fish the fish in these places would be useless.

5.—No change appears to me necessary.

6.—Only a small quantity of fish can be obtained in this district, even if these small fish form the greatest part. If, therefore, the sale of small fish is prohibited the moderate poor would be precluded from eating fish at all, as they are unable to pay the high price demanded for large fish which the rich only are able to pay.

7.—Villagers already take care to prevent the catching of fish while there is sufficient water in the tanks for their fields and for drinking purposes. It is the custom here to catch fish while the tanks are being dried up. Fish caught in the rivers during the rainy weather are large, but small fish cannot then be caught. Prohibiting the catching of fish during that season would be useless, as they do not then remain stationary. The Kistna is the only river flowing amidst mountains in which fish can be obtained.

(True Translation.)

(Signed) C. L. B. CUMMING,
Assistant Collector.

ENCLOSURE No. 5.

From A. RAMACHENDRA ROW, Deputy-Collector, to the Collector of Kurnool, dated Nundial, 16th April 1872, No. 43.

ADVERTING to your Docket, * No. 44, dated the 15th January last, I have the honour to submit replies to the paper of questions therewith received regarding the fish and fisheries in my division.

* Reminded by Docket, No. 204, dated 12th March 1872.

ENCLOSURE 1 IN No. 5.

FISHERIES.

Answers.

Questions.

1.—Are breeding fish and very young ones destroyed in your district to any great extent?

2.—If they are destroyed, how, in what places, and in what seasons?

1.—Yes.

2.—The season during which the fishes are principally destroyed is between April and June when the water in the larger tanks fails. In tanks of smaller dimensions the season is between December and January. Nets of various sizes and traps of wicker work are used. In jungle streams and minor rivers the fishes are caught by angling and by nets at other times; and during December and January weirs are set up across the streams and the fishes captured. Sometimes earthen dams are raised across the stream and the water baled out to catch the fish.

3.—What is the smallest size of the mesh of nets allowed or employed in your district?

3.—The smallest size of the mesh is three-eighths inch by three-eighths inch.

4.—What difficulties are there against regulating the size of the mesh of nets?

4.—There are seven kinds of nets in use in this division, the meshes being of various sizes.

Size of Mesh.

- (1.) Padda Vala, 3 inches by 3 inches.
- (2.) Isuru Vala, 1 „ by 1 „
- (3.) Kandu Vala, 4 „ by 4 „
- (4.) Sanna Kau-
dula Vala, 2 „ by 2 „
- (5.) Sanna Vala, $\frac{1}{2}$ „ by $\frac{1}{2}$ „
- (6.) KattaluVala, $\frac{1}{2}$ „ by $\frac{1}{2}$ „
- (7.) Oodulu or traps of wicker work.

The interstices are infinitely of much smaller dimensions than the smallest sized meshes of nets. The larger the size of the meshes the greater the protection afforded against the destruction of young fishes; but the poorer classes, who principally eat the smaller sized fish owing to its comparative cheapness, would feel it a hardship if the meshes are allowed to be on a comparatively large dimension.

5.—What size between knot and knot of the meshes of nets do you consider advisable?

5.—Five-eighths of an inch between knot and knot of the mesh would be a fair size.

6.—What objections exist against prohibiting the sale of the fry of fish in the bazaars?

6.—The poorer class would suffer by such a prohibition, as the fishes captured in the tanks and jungle streams, from which the supply is principally drawn, are generally of the small kind.

7.—Are there any objections against prohibiting the capture of fish in hilly districts as the Himalayas or Nilgiris for the first two months of the monsoon season when they are breeding?

7.—I don't see any objection to such a prohibition being laid in regard to this district, as no large rivers take their source from the hills. The few minor rivers and jungle streams which rise in this district are dry during the greater portion of the year, and the beds moreover being rocky afford little or no shelter for the fish, if there be any, during the hot season.

(Signed) A. RAMACHENDRA ROW,

Deputy-Collector.

ENCLOSURE No. 6.

Replies by the Tahsildar of Cumbum.

1.—There are about 100 fishermen in this taluq, none of these live by fishing alone but also by cultivation, cooly, and other occupations.

2.—The following are the castes that fish:—

1. Muthuraju or Boyas (ముతూరాజు అనుగా వోయలు); 2. Mahomedans (మహమెదన్లు); 3. Telugu Baligas (తెలుగుబలిగెలు); 4. Weavers (సారెవాండ్లు); 5. Kapas (కాపువాండ్లు); 6. Mandular or Medicine sellers (మందులవాండ్లు); 7. Malas and Madigas (మాలమడిగెలు); 8. Boyas (బోయలు).

The following are the names of fish that are caught here:—

1. Karisa Mattah (కరిసెమట్ట); 2. Buratha Mutta (బురతామట్ట); 3. Kunta Muku (కుంటాముక్కు); 4. Malugu fish (మలగుచేప); 5. Thomma (తొమ్మ); 6. Valaga fish (వాలగచేప); 7. Roya Potta (రొయ్యపెట్ట); 8. Iska Mothu (యెనుకమొద్దు); 9. Valikay Thatta (వలికయతట్ట); 10. Guda fish (గుడచేప); 11. Barisay (బరెక); 12. Buddah Pakay (బుద్దపక్కె).

3.—There are no villages in this taluq where a sufficient quantity of fish is sold in the bazaar, but in the Cumbum village, when the tank dries up once in many years, sufficient quantities are obtained to answer the demand and no more.

4.—There are three sorts of fish. The first is sold at Annas 1-6 each, second sort at 1 Anna each, and the third sort 1, 2 or 3 Pies each fish according to the size. First sort of mutton is sold at 4 Annas per seer of 100 Rupees weight, and second sort at 2 Annas per seer of 100 Rupees weight. Small and large dried fish are mixed together and sold at Pies 8 per seer.

5.—Out of the total population (123,135) about 115,000 are men eating fish.

6.—A great number of fish was caught six years ago when the Cumbum tank dried up, and since that, as the supply of water in the tank is always large, it is not possible to estimate the increase or decrease of the fish, and probably there has been neither an increase nor decrease.

7.—Young fish are caught by Kodimays (కొడిమెలు), or bamboo baskets placed against the current when fresh rain-water flows through channels, and by fishing with nets in tanks.

8.—The size of the smallest mesh of nets is about half an inch.

9.—It appears that there are no fish in irrigated fields in the rainy season. None such are caught.

10.—Small fish are caught in still water with nets, and in running water, such as streams and canals, with Kodimay (కొడిమె), mentioned in the 7th paragraph. Small and large fish are caught with nets (నెలు), hooks (ఘోములు), and circular-shaped baskets named Udulu (ఊదులు).

The following are the names of fishing instruments:—

1. Anukulamu (అనుకులము); 2. Small net (చిన్ననెలు); 3. Isuru Vala (యెనురువల); 4. Kanda Vala (కండెవల); 5. Idpu Vala (యెద్దువల); 6. Kodimay (కొడిమె); 7. Hooks (ఘోములు); 8. Voothulu (ఊదులు); 9. Gorakah (గొరక);

N. B.—Descriptions of most of these instruments have been given in the Markapur Tahsildar's report.

(True Translation.)

(Signed) T. A. N. CHASE,
Collector.

ENCLOSURE No. 7.

Replies by the Tahsildar of Nundial.

1.—There might be four or five thousand fishermen altogether in this taluq. None of these live by fishing alone, but pursue other occupations. They catch fish for some days during the dry season when tanks dry, and for some days at the commencement of the rainy season: This will not afford them sufficient livelihood. They also live by cooly, etc.

2.—Telugus (తెలుగువాండ్లు) fish. Except Brahmins (బ్రాహ్మణులు); Chetrias (చేత్రయలు), Visyas (వైశ్యులు), Panchalas (పంచాలయలు), and Linga Balijas (లింగాబలిజెలు), all the rest eat fish, and also catch fish occasionally, i. e., when tanks are dry in summer, etc., viz., 1. Mahomedans (మహమెదన్లు); 2. Toddy-drawers (తొడిగెవాండ్లు); 3. Kapas (కాపులు); 4. Mala (మాల); 5. Madiga (మడిగె); 6. Washermen (వాశలు); 7. Sugali (సుగాలి); 8. Barber (మంగల); 9. Weaver (సారె); 10. Boya (బోయ); 11. Budubudukala (బుదుబుడకల); and 12. Vugalu (ఊగులు).

3.—There is no village in this taluq where fish are sold in the bazaar, but are purchased at fishermen's houses at the time fish are caught. The supply scarcely suffices for the local demand. There is no village in this taluq where the supply is more than the demand.

4.—Large and small fish are sold at the same rate; dried ones are sold from 1 to 2 Annas per seer of 24 Rupees weight according to the time. Fresh ones have no fixed rate, and are charged according to their size. Fresh sort of mutton is sold at Annas 2-8 per seer of 96 Rupees weight, and second sort at 2 Annas per seer.

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5.—About three-fourths of the whole population (107,765) eat fish.

6.—Fish seem to have decreased since the survey and demarcation, owing to more land being cultivated and thus petty channels, etc., getting filled up, and also owing to decrease in the rain-fall.

7.—In rainy seasons fishermen fix poles on both banks of small channels and tie loosely to them a net so as to touch the bed of the channel, and then keep bamboo baskets called Kodimays (కొడిమాయి) in the water tied to the ends of that net. The water first runs through the net and then into the Kodimay (కొడిమాయి), so small fish are caught by Kodimays (కొడిమాయి). Small fish are not caught when rivers, etc., are full during the rainy season.

8.—The size of the smallest mesh of nets is that of a grain of dholl. Not smaller. The smallest net is called Kattala net (కట్టాలవల).

9. There are no fish in irrigated fields during the rainy season, and none are therefore caught.

10.—Fish are caught by means of hooks (గొర్రులు), Isuru Valas (ఐశురువలలు), and Kodimays (కొడిమాయి). In summer the fruits of *Crotalaria Strica* (ముంగకాయలు) are beaten and made to rot in water, and with this the tanks are poisoned. The next day all the fish in it will be found dead and floating, and are taken out.

The following are the names of fishing tools that are in use:—

- (1.) Big net (పెద్దవల), whose mesh is 3 inches wide.
- (2.) Kanda Vala (కండావల), do. do. is 4 do.
- (3.) Small Kanda Vala (చిన్నకండావల), is 1 do.
- (4.) Isuru Vala (ఐశురువల), do. do. is 1 do.
- (5.) Little net (చిన్నవల), whose mesh is of the size of a grain of Bengal gram.
- (6.) Kattulu Vala (కట్టలవల), whose mesh is of the size of a grain of dholl.
- (7.) Kodimay (కొడిమాయి), made of bamboo splits.
- (8.) Big hook (పెద్దగొర్రు).
- (9.) Little hook (చిన్నగొర్రు).
- (10.) Thamarla hook (తామరగొర్రు). By this a fish of twelve seers weight can be caught.
- (11.) Rava hook (రవగొర్రు). By this small ones are caught.
- (12.) Voothulu (వూతులు).

N. B.—Description of most of these instruments are given in the Markapur Tahsildar's report.

(True Translation.)

(Signed) T. A. N. CHASE,
Collector.

ENCLOSURE No. 8.

Replies by the Tahsildar of Markapur.

1.—There are about 500 fishermen in this taluq. None of them are only fishermen; they all pursue other occupations.

2.—The Besthas (బెస్టలు), Turukas (తురుకలు), Boyas (బోయలు), Mutirachulu (ముతిరాచులు), Kapas (కాపలు), Balijas (బలిజలు), Wuddas (వడ్డలు), Malas (మాలలు), Madigas (మాదిగలు), and people of other castes catch fish.

3.—There are no villages in the taluq where fish are sold in the bazaars. In no village are they caught more than necessary for consumption. They are taken in small quantities to houses and sold.

4.—Small dried fish are sold at 1 Anna per seer of 24 Rupees weight, and those a little larger at 2 Annas per seer. Fresh fish are not sold by weight; two handful of small fish would cost about 1 Anna, and large fish about 1 cubit long would cost 1 Anna. Mutton is sold, the first sort at 3 Annas, and the second sort at 2 Annas per seer of 80 Rupees weight.

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5.—About 75 per cent. of the total population eat fish; but fish sufficient for all this number cannot be obtained.

6.—The quantity of fish appears to have increased of late years, as new tanks, anicuts, etc., have been built, and the quantity of fish increase with the quantity of water.

7.—Small fish are caught during the rainy season. In the supply channels, and in the calingulabs when the water runs a span deep, a conical-shaped net is kept against the current, constructed with small split bamboos with holes large enough for a big black ant to pass through. It is known by the name of Kodimay (కొడిమాయి). Its size is that of a vessel holding about 24 seers of grain. Its mouth is covered in a similar manner with small split bamboos inwardly woven, leaving a small space to let the fish in. When fish once get in they cannot get out because their mouths strike against the split bamboos. It would be filled with small fish if kept for about three hours in the water. When it is brought out, and the strings tied underneath are loosened over a small pit, all of them fall into it and die soon after. By this means each time a basket full (చెట్టు) of fish are caught.

8.—The size of the smallest mesh is that of a grain of Bengal gram.

9.—Fish are not caught in irrigated fields during the rainy season, but when they are filled with rain water, which flows into rivers through channels, the fish in these rivers, finding the water of the fields sweeter, get into them through these channels; then a fishing basket two cubits high and three cubits broad named Udu (ఉదు), constructed of split bamboos with meshes of the size of a finger, is covered over the fish when seen passing along. In this manner single fish and only big ones are caught, and one by one taken out of it by the hand.

10.—Names of instruments used in fishing.

Explanation of their usages.

1. Kodimay (కొడిమాయి).
2. Udu (ఉదు).
3. Idupu Vala (ఐదుపువల), drag net.

4. Isuru Vala (ఐశురువల).

5. Canda Vala (కండావల).

6. Athaly (అథలి).

1. Fish are caught in the manner stated in the 7th paragraph.

2. Do. do. 9th paragraph.

3. This net is made with strings, leaving meshes as big as a grain of Bengal gram. It has a wide mouth and is conical. It resembles a bag. It is thrown in water by two men, each holding at an end, and thus fish are caught.

4. This net is made with strings; the meshes are of the size of a finger. This is round and as wide as a threshing floor (కల్లము). It is thrown in the water by one man, and when the cords tied to it are drawn in it becomes a bundle and fish are entangled in it.

5. This is made with strings, with meshes big enough to allow two or three fingers to pass. It is one yard wide and 50 or 100 yards long. This is thrown in rivers against the current and its ends are tied to pegs fixed in the sand on both banks in the water. Big fish that come with the current get entangled in the meshes and are caught by the fishermen.

6. This is made like a long bag of one yard with small meshes, and its mouth is fastened to a curved stick called Vayly Kattay (వాయిలకట్టె) with strings. It is dipped in water with both hands and then raised; all the water runs through and the fish remain in it.

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7. Angling hooks. (గొల్లపిచ్చులు).

7. This is of three sorts, namely, small (చిన్న గొల్లపిచ్చులు), middle sized (మధ్య గొల్లపిచ్చులు), and large (పెద్ద గొల్లపిచ్చులు). Earth-worms (మృతంజులు), small fish (చిన్న చేపలు), lumps of wheat flour and the flour of Bengal gram are placed on these hooks as baits and thrown into water; then if the fish attempts to catch the bait the hook is drawn out and the fish comes with it.

(True Translation.)

(Signed) T. A. N. CHASE,
Collector.

ENCLOSURE No. 9.

Replies by the Tahsildar of Pattikonda.

1.—There are about 300 men who catch fish in this taluq, 200 adults and 100 young men; but none live by that occupation alone. People catching fish live chiefly by other occupations.

2.—Castes catching fish—

The Bestas (బెస్తా), Boyas (బోయ), Turakas (తురకలు), Weavers (సాతె), Shepherds (గొల్లలు), Kuruba (కురుబ), Barbers (మంత్రం), Washermen (చాకల), Malas (మాలలు), Madigas (మాదిగలు), Settibaliga (సెట్టిబలిగా), Yerakala (యెరకల), Lambadi (లంబాడి), Rajputs (రాజపుత్రులు), Kamma (కమ్మ), Byti Kamsala (బైటికమ్మల).

Kinds of Fish.—Royya (రొయ్య), Karisi (కరిసి), Matti (మట్టి), Buddapakki (బుద్దపక్కి), Thorny Fish (ముండ్లచేప), Pamu fish (పాముచేప), Buradamatta (బురదామట్ట), Vulas fish (వులసచేప), Misalajalli (మీసాలజల్లి), Kanya fish (కన్యాచేప), Bedisa (బెడిస) Kanuga (కన్యగు) and Valaga (వాలగ).

3.—A good quantity of fish is sold during the rainy season at Pattikonda, Maddikera, and Pepally. A small quantity is sold also at Devanakonda, Kodumur, Gonedandla, and Bellagal. There are no places where fish are obtained greater in quantity than the demand.

4.—Fish of greater value than 1 Anna each are not obtained in this taluq. Small fish are sold at Annas 1-6 per seer of 24 Rupees weight. First class mutton can be got at 3 Annas per seer of 24 Rupees weight, and second class mutton at 2 Annas.

5.—About three-fourths of the population eat fish.

6.—It would appear that the quantity of fish now is slightly below the average of about the last eight years.

7.—Small fish are caught during the rainy season. This is done (1) by throwing small dams across streams, (2) by throwing out the water in some place where fish are found, and (3) by nets.

8.—The size of the smallest mesh of a net used in this taluq is about that of a grain of Bengal gram.

9.—In irrigated fields fish are caught during the rainy season in some places and in very small quantities.

10.—The following are the instruments by which fish are caught in this taluq :—

Isuru Vala (యీసురువల), small nets (చిన్ననెట్లు), Kanda Vala (కందెవల), Singitham (సింగిథం), Vuta hooks (వుతాగొల్లపిచ్చులు).

(True Translation.)

(Signed) T. A. N. CHASE,
Collector.

ENCLOSURE No. 10.

Replies by the Tahsildar of Nundikotkur.

1.—There are about 500 fishermen in this taluq. None of them live by fishing only. Generally they live by pursuing other occupations. There are about 200 Telugu people who pursue other occupations also, and 300 who very occasionally catch fish.

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2.—The following castes catch fish :—

Hindoos.—1. Kapas (కాపలు); 2. Jogis (జోగి); 3. Weavers (సాతె); 4. Besthas (బెస్తా); 5. Kurava (కురవ); 6. Shepherds (గొల్ల); 7. Voogooloo (వొగూలూ); 8. Pichigoontla (పిచ్చిగూంట్లా); 9. Bylukammara (బైలుకమ్మర); 10. Thomara (థోమర); 11. Thasary (థాసరీ); 12. Ata Thasary (అతాథాసరీ); 13. Bogum (బోగం); 14. Toddy-drawers (యోద్దీ); 15. Soonkalooroo (సూంకలూరూ); 16. Dyers (రంగరేణు); 17. Lumbady (లంబాడి); 18. Wadday (వడ్డె); 19. Yarakala (యరకల); 20. Basket-makers (మేదరీ); 21. Chenchoo (చెంచు); 22. Mala (మాల); 23. Madiga (మాదిగ); 24. Boya (బోయ); Mahomedans.—25. Shaik (శేకు); 26. Siad (సైయ్య); 27. Mogul (మొగల్); 28. Patan (పతాన); 29. Pingary (పింగరీ).

3.—A sufficient quantity of fish is neither sold in the bazaar nor in houses; but Telugus (తెలుగువాండ్లు) or Besthas (బెస్తా) reside in villages mentioned (not given) below and catch fish in tanks and rivers. Such fish are taken to Atmakur, Nundial and other places, and sold by them. These are carried to other places, for they do not sell in that village.

4.—The following are the fish found in all the villages of this division :—

Big fish of two feet long.—1. Valaga (వాలగ); 2. Pumatta (పూమట్ట). Small fish of about one foot long.—3. Kontamuku (కొంటముక్కు); 4. Vusuruthonthu (వుసురుథంతు).

Of these big fish, of about 40 Rupees weight each, are sold at 2 Annas each, and the rest at 1 Anna per pound.

Rates of Mutton.—First sort at Annas 1-3 per pound, and second sort at Anna 1 per pound.

5.—About 75 per cent. of the whole population eat fish.

6.—The supply of fish for the last four years is increasing on account of the opening of the irrigation canal.

7.—There is a practice of fishing during the rainy season.

Fish are caught by means of nets, Udulu (వుదులు), and other methods.

8.—The size of the smallest mesh of all nets is noted in the margin.

9.—Fish are caught in irrigated fields during the rainy season.

10.—The various ways of catching fish are mentioned below :—

(1.) Visuru Vala (విసురువల).—Casting net. This net is made of strings and is thrown in water, and in this manner fish are caught.

(2.) Eadala (యాదల).—Fish are caught by fixing poles in flowing water and by tying this net to them. This must be used with aid of the instrument explained in the fourth head.

(3.) Eldulu (ఎల్దులు).—Basket-like nets are pressed from the top to the bottom of the water, and fish are caught by this means.

(4.) Kodimay (కోడిమయ).—This is made of split bamboos; fish are caught by placing this against the current in streams. In order to prevent fish escaping from its sides the net described in the second head is placed on both sides.

(5.) Idpu Vala (యీడ్పువల).—Drag net is made of strings. If two men catch the ends of this net and drag it in the water fish are found in it when brought out.

(6.) Thobudu Vala (థోబుదువల).—This is the same as the fifth but a little smaller, and a single man can work with it.

(7.) Hook (గొల్లపిచ్చు).—This is attached to a long stick with a string, and a bit of a white cork, like substance called (చెంచు), is tied in the middle of this string as a float. The hook is baited with flower or an earth-worm and is put into the water. A man holds the stick on the bank. When drawn out of the water a fish is found attached to it. Fish are caught singly. This is called angling.

(8.) Large hooks are thrown into water baited with flour, etc., as stated in the 7th paragraph. When fish bite at the hook for the bait the string sinks and is drawn out of the water.

(True Translation.)

(Signed) T. A. N. CHASE,
Collector.

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19th August 1872.*

ENCLOSURE No. 11.

Replies by the Tahsildar of Sirwell.

1.—It is impossible to estimate the number of fishermen exactly in this taluq, but generally all other people than those mentioned below catch fish; but especially the Besthas (బెస్థలు) catch and sell them as a special occupation. In this taluq there are about 60 Besthas (బెస్థలు) who understand fishing. These live not only by this occupation, but also by carrying palanquins and selling fruits:—

- | | |
|---|------------------------------------|
| (1.) Brahmins (బ్రాహ్మణులు). | (4.) Linga Baligas (లింగాబలిజెలు). |
| (2.) Komities (కోమిటీలు). | (5.) Panchalas (పాంచాలయలు). |
| (3.) Nanugonda Kapas (నానుగొండ కాపులు). | (6.) Thumbalas (తుంబళవాండ్లు). |

2. The following are the castes that catch fish—those who catch merely for home consumption:—

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|---|------------------------------------|
| (1.) Kapas (కాపులు). | (10.) Yarakalas (యరకలవాండ్లు). |
| (2.) Gollas or Shepherds (గొల్ల వాండ్లు). | (11.) Basket-makers (మేడరవాండ్లు). |
| (3.) Thota Balijas (తోటబలిజెలు). | (12.) Barbers (మంగలవాండ్లు). |
| (4.) Potters (కుమ్మరవాండ్లు). | (13.) Chenchus (చెంచులు). |
| (5.) Earth-salt makers (పుష్పరవాండ్లు). | (14.) Boyas (బోయలు). |
| (6.) Mootharachas (ముతరాచవాండ్లు). | (15.) Mahomedans (మరకవాండ్లు). |
| (7.) Washermen (చాకలవాండ్లు). | (16.) Malas (మాలవాండ్లు). |
| (8.) Weavers (సాలెవాండ్లు). | (17.) Madigas (మాదిగవాండ్లు). |
| (9.) Toddy-drawers (యొడిగెవాండ్లు). | |

Those who catch for the purpose of selling—1. Besthas (బెస్థలు); 2. Telugus (తెలుగువాండ్లు).

3.—In this taluq fish are not found in quantities sufficient to sell in open market. Generally speaking Besthas (బెస్థలు) and Telugus (తెలుగువాండ్లు), after consuming as much as they require for their own use, carry the remainder from house to house and sell it either for grain or money.

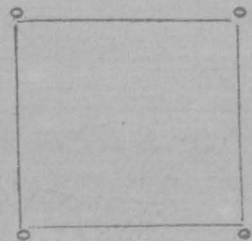
4.—Fish that are of the size of the little finger are sold at Annas 1-4 per seer, and those that are smaller Pies 8 per seer. Fish are not sold singly.

5.—The number of men that eat fish is three-fourths of the whole population, that is 53,526.

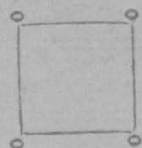
6.—The average rain-fall of this year being less than those of previous years fish seem to have decreased this year.

7.—In this taluq fish are occasionally caught by Kodimay (కోడిమె) in streams during the rainy season.

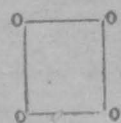
8.—The size of the smallest mesh of nets employed in this taluq is noted below:—



This is the size of a mesh in what is called Kodimay (కోడిమె).



This is the size of a mesh in what is called Isuru Vala (యీసురువల).



This is the size of a mesh in what is called Idpu Vala (యీడ్పువల).

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9.—Fish are not caught in irrigated fields, as only a few are found in fields.

10. Fish are caught in this taluq by means of Kande Vala (కందెవల), Idpu Vala (యీడ్పువల), Isuru Vala (యీసురువల), Kodimay (కోడిమె), and Udulu (ఉదులు).

N. B.—Descriptions of the various sorts of instruments employed are given in the Markapur Tahsildar's report.

(True Translation.)

(Signed) T. A. N. CHASE,
Collector.

ENCLOSURE No. 12.

Replies by the Tahsildar of Ramalakota.

1.—There are about 1,000 fishermen in this taluq. None of these live only by this occupation but also by cooly-hire, etc.

2.—Thirty-eight castes of men catch fish in this taluq, namely:—

1. Yalamas (యలమలు); 2. Kapas (కాపులు); 3. Thota Balijas (తోటబలిజెలు); 4. Jogees (జోగీ); 5. Washermen (చాకలవాండ్లు); 6. Potters (కుమ్మరవాండ్లు); 7. Barbers (మంగల); 8. Atakala (అటకల); 9. Khatri (ఖత్రీ); 10. Weaver (సాలె); 11. Bestha (బెస్థ); 12. Kuraba (కురబ); 13. Raja Putra (రాజపుత్ర); 14. Kayatha (కాయత); 15. Shepherd (గొల్ల); 16. Bylu Kammara (బైలుకమ్మర); 17. Dombara (దొంబర); 18. Thasari (తాసరి); 19. Ata Thasari (అటాతాసరి); 20. Dancing caste (దోంక); 21. Toddy-drawers (యొడిగె); 22. Dyers (రంగారాజువాండ్లు); 23. Lumbadies (లంబాడీలు); 24. Waddes (వడ్డెలు); 25. Yarakalas (యరకల); 26. Basket-makers (మేడర); 27. Javary (జెవ్వరి); 28. Coblers (ముచ్చలవాండ్లు); 29. Mala (మాల); 30. Madiga (మాదిగ); 31. Earth-saltmakers (పుష్పర); 32. Boya (బోయ); 33. Labbe (లబ్బె); 34. Shaik (షేక్); 35. Syada (సయ్యద); 36. Mogul (మొగల్); 37. Patan (పతానీ); 38. Pinjary (పింజరీ).

3.—In no place except in the Kurnool market in this taluq are fish sold in the bazaars. The supply of every village is not greater than the demand.

4.—Small fish are sold at 8 Pice per seer; big fish weighing six seers, caught by angling, are sold at 8 Annas each. First sort of mutton at 4 Annas per seer, and the second sort at 8* Annas per seer.

* So in original.

5.—The total population of this taluq is 146,729; two-thirds of these, or 97,820, eat fish.

6.—The quantity of fish obtained in the Tungabudra seems to have decreased, as compared with the produce of the last ten years. Fish are not obtained in great quantities in the river from the time the irrigation canal was opened nor in the tanks, for there is no good supply of water owing to the want of rain.

7.—Sometimes small fish are caught by means of nets and by using Kudime (కోడిమె).

8.—The size of the smallest mesh of nets is that of a grain of dhol. I have herewith sent a sample of this kind of net.

9.—Very rarely caught.

10.—In this taluq fish are caught by means of hooks (గొలములు), Udulu (ఉదులు), and nets (వెలు). These names are commonly used, and it is said that Udulu (ఉదులు) is also called Kudime (కోడిమె).

N. B.—Descriptions of the instruments employed are given in the Markapur Tahsildar's report.

(True Translation.)

(Signed) T. A. N. CHASE,
Collector.

ENCLOSURE No. 13.

Replies by the Tahsildar of Koilkuntla.

1.—There are about 100 fishing people in this taluq. None of them live by fishing alone. They sell fish during the time when they are obtained, and live by cultivation and cooly, etc., at other times.

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- 2.—Besthas (பெஸ்தா) and Telugu (తెలుగు) catch fish in this taluq.
 - 3.—There is no village in this taluq where fish are sold in the market. Fishermen generally take fish to the neighbouring villages and sell them there, and there is no village where the supply is greater than the demand.
 - 4.—In this taluq there are two sorts of fish; the big kind measures more than a span, and the small one inch. The big ones are sold at 8 Pice each and small ones at 1 Pie per four or five. First sort of mutton is sold at Annas 2-2 and the second sort Annas 1-4.
 - 5.—The population of this taluq is 98,535. Three-fourths of the total population eat fish.
 - 6.—The quantity of fish obtainable appears about stationary.
 - 7.—There is no practice of catching fish in the taluq in the rainy season.
 - 8.—The smallest mesh of nets is of the size of one silver Anna piece.
 - 9.—There is no practice of fishing in the rainy season in irrigated fields in this taluq.
 - 10.—Fish are caught by means of hooks (ஈசு), nets (பல), and Kudimies (கூடிமீ).
- The following are the names of fishing appliances that are in use :—Hooks (ஈசு), net (பல), and Kudime (கூடிமீ).

N. B.—Kudime (கூடிமீ) is explained in the Markapur Tahsildar's report.

(True Translation.)

(Signed) T. A. N. CHASE,
Collector.

From W. McQUHAE, Esq., Acting Collector of Madura, to the Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Kodaikanel, 17th May 1872, No. 142.

WITH reference to the Order of Government, dated 18th November 1871, No. 1,963, R. D., I have the honour to submit replies to the questions put in paragraph 11 of Dr. Day's prefatory letter.

- 1.—Breeding fish and very young ones are destroyed to a great extent. All are caught that can be caught.
 - 2.—Fish are caught in nets with meshes of all sizes and by placing baskets in streams. Fish are taken at all seasons when they are procurable in tanks, irrigation channels, and rivers.
 - 3.—The ordinary mesh of nets is rarely under half an inch in circumference, but baskets and other arrangements for catching the smallest fish are freely employed.
 - 4.—Some of the fisheries are rented out, and in these cases the size of the mesh of nets to be used might be fixed. In other cases the size could only be regulated by legislation, but with regard to tanks and many channels that are dry during part of the year, I do not see how the destruction of all the fish that get into them can be prevented.
 - 5.—I think the size between knot and knot of the meshes of nets might be fixed at one inch.
 - 6.—The sale of the fry of fish in the bazaars might be prohibited, but here I think they are generally eaten by the persons who catch them.
 - 7.—Very few fish are caught in the hills of Madura District, and no rules for regulating fishing there are at present required.
2. It has already been reported that the fresh-water fisheries of Madura are very insignificant, and I think it will be sufficient to submit a general answer to the questions circulated to Tahsildars.
3. There are very few professional fishermen in the district except in the town of Madura. Men catch and sell fish when they are abundant, and when not engaged in fishing they pursue other occupations. There are no distinct fishermen castes. Mussulmans, Sudras, Pariahs, and others catch fish.

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4. The local markets in large towns are not fully supplied with fish, and at certain seasons they are very scarce. During the season the supply in many villages is sufficient, but more could always be sold in the larger towns. Large fish are sold separately at prices varying from 2 to 8 Annas, and small fish are sold in little heaps of various sizes at prices varying from 6 Pies to 2 Annas according to quantity and quality. The price of one pound of first sort mutton is about Annas 2-6, and of second sort mutton about 2 Annas. It is difficult to compare the prices of the two articles, for the price of fish varies immensely at different seasons, and even changes in a few hours according to the supply offered for sale. It must be so in places where fish are at one time very abundant, and at another scarcely procurable. Only about one-twentieth part of the whole population do not eat fish. It does not appear that fish have either increased or decreased of late years. Very small fish are caught in considerable quantities, chiefly in baskets. The smallest mesh of the nets employed is about half an inch in circumference. Fish are not very generally trapped in the irrigated fields during the rains. Four kinds of nets are generally used called Visu Vala (cast nets), Iluppu Vala (drag nets), Kachal Vala (purse nets), and Eduppu Vala (larger purse nets). Fish are also caught in baskets of two kinds, and with hooks. In shallow water when tanks are drying they are baled out in various ways.

From W. S. WHITESIDE, Esq., Acting Collector of North Arcot, to the Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Arnee, 6th June 1872, No. 237.

ADVERTING to their Proceedings of the 30th November last, Miscellaneous No. 4,350, I have the honour to refer the Board to Mr. Robinson's letter of the 26th October and 19th November 1869, Nos. 329 and 357, from which they will observe that there are no perennial rivers in this district, and that the tanks are either dry or so low at intervals that nearly every fish in them, great and small, is caught. It has, however, been ascertained that there is no wanton destruction of fish in this district.

From A. WEDDERBURN, Esq., Collector of Coimbatore, to the Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated 9th July 1872, No. 109.

WITH reference to Revenue Board's Miscellaneous Proceedings, No. 4,350 of 30th November 1871, I have the honour to forward replies of Division Officers and Tahsildars to the questions in Dr. Day's report.

- 1 and 2.—Fish of all sizes and ages are caught and eaten when and wherever they can be.
- 3.—The smallest mesh of net used is one-eighth of an inch.
- 4.—The difficulty of "regulating the size of the mesh" would be the practical difficulty of enforcing it with the means at disposal.
- 5.—As regards the proper size of mesh to be used it would depend on the size of the fish intended to be caught. Throw or casting nets for small fish in shallow water have small meshes; drag nets or seines for large fish in deep water have large ones.
- 6.—I know of no objection to the sale of the fry of fish when they are caught. Perhaps a close season during the freshes might be ordered, but flood-water also protects the fish without other agency.
- 7.—Not applicable.

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2. Poisoning or drugging water in the dry season might be prohibited, but if fish were not caught and eaten by men in drying up pools and tanks they would only be left to the birds, etc., to consume. The difficulty would be to carry out such prohibition in remote parts with the agency at command.

3. Four Tahsildars of Collegal, Coimbatore, Bowany and Dharapuram report a decrease of fish. As free fishing has been going on from time immemorial it is open to question whether a notable decrease could be observed within one or two years past. If the Tahsildars' information as is probable, and indeed admitted in some instances, were derived from the fishermen they perhaps, in anticipation of a tax which all official inquiries are feared to foreshadow, would represent a decreased supply. The old Monigar of Oodunthoray, near Mettapolliem on the Bhowany, told me personally he knew of no diminution.

4. The tank fish if not caught would be useless when the tanks, as they invariably do, dry up; some, however, escape by burying themselves deep in the mud, for they appear again when the tanks fill.

5. I doubt if the fresh-water fish supply is of such importance as to warrant legislative interference; there are no poison emitting mills or mines to pour out their continuously destructive influences. The fish have means of protecting themselves. It is very doubtful if they have really decreased, for as I remarked the only people who know anything about them are the fishermen, who would dread a tax as the result of their profession being considered a thriving one.

6. Official interference in the unfrequented localities on the river banks would be ineffectual, or perhaps oppressive. The fish is not valuable like the Salmon, but apparently of little commercial value in the market. It is not worth being carried far like half-salt and sun-dried sea fish, and does not appear to be used far from where it is caught.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

Replies to Dr. Day's questions about Fish by J. W. Best, Esq., Acting Sub-Collector of Coimbatore, dated 30th May 1872.

- 1.—There is reason for believing that they are.
- 2.—They appear to be caught in nets whenever and wherever found.
- 3.—The smallest size of the mesh of nets now employed measures somewhat less than one-fourth of an inch from knot to knot.
- 4.—None, provided a law be enacted, regulating the size and prescribing penalties for the use of nets with meshes of a smaller size.
- 5.—Not less than one-third of an inch.
- 6.—It may be looked upon as a grievance by certain classes of the people, but these people could doubtless find some other employment, which, while being equally profitable to themselves, would be less open to objection on public grounds.
- 7.—There are no such hilly districts in this division.

(True Copy.)

(Signed) J. C. WINSOM,
Deputy-Collector.

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lies to Dr. Day's questions about Fish by R. Rice, Esq., Acting Head Assistant Collector of Coimbatore.

- 1.—It is believed that both breeding and young fish are destroyed to a considerable extent. There is a constant demand for fish, (it is considered that three-fourths of the population eat fish,) and as the fishermen, as a rule, live solely by their occupation proper, and as there are no fishery laws or regulations for their conservation, it follows that the fishermen will never be troubled with any scruples about taking whatever they can catch. In fact "all is fish that comes to their net."
- 2.—By different means and appliances, such as nets, fishing hooks, traps (பிடிபிடி), damming rivers, streams, etc., when the water is low.
- 3.—About one-eighth of an inch.
- 4.—About half an inch.
- 5.—The fry of fish is not sold in the bazaars in Coimbatore. It is sometimes brought salted from the Western Coast and elsewhere for sale.
- 6.—I am not aware of any.

The difficulty would be to work effectively the provisions of any law that might be enacted to prevent the capture of the fish during the breeding season.

(True Copy.)

(Signed) J. C. WINSOM,
Deputy-Collector.

lies to Dr. Day's questions about Fish by A. M. MacGregor, Esq., Deputy-Collector, Southern Division, Coimbatore District, dated 17th May 1872.

- 1.—Very young fish do not appear to be often destroyed. Breeding fish are doubtless destroyed whenever caught.
- 2.—Fish of all sorts and sizes are caught by nets and fishing rods at all seasons in rivers and wherever they can be caught.
- 3.—The smallest size of the mesh of nets employed in this division appear to vary from one-eighth inch to one-fourth inch.
- 4.—I should doubt the possibility of regulating the size of the mesh of nets. A few persons might be punished for not adopting the regulated mesh; but in remote parts detection would be difficult if not impossible, and no Government establishment at present in existence could undertake this vexatious work. Village Monigars could certainly never be trusted with the duty, and their duties at present are quite as much as they can properly perform. I give this duty to the Monigars, and it would be simply giving them an excellent opportunity for extortion when detection would be impossible. This remark would apply, however, to any persons likely to be entrusted with this supervision.
- 5.—Knowing nothing about fishing I am not competent to give any opinion.
- 6.—Remark No. 4 appears to me equally applicable in this case.
- 7.—To enforce such a prohibition would be impossible, and the discontent and vexation and confusion caused by such prohibitions would be greatly disproportionate to the advantages gained.

(True Copy.)

(Signed) J. C. WINSOM,
Deputy-Collector.

lies to Dr. Day's questions about Fish by T. Krishna Row, Deputy-Collector, Northern Division, Coimbatore District.

- 1.—Yes, they are.
- 2.—They are destroyed throughout the Bhowany river from Kartike to Vyasi (from November onwards) by raising ring bund across the river and thus catching them in bamboo mat slopes. This is done by Wudders only.

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3.—That of a 2 Anna silver piece.

4 and 5.—The absence of a legislative enactment even if a law is passed on the subject prohibiting the employment of mesh below a certain size it will affect the occupation of the fishermen, Wudders excepted. Different sizes of meshes are required to catch different sizes of fish, and so a particular size between knot and knot is not advisable.

6.—None, save the difficulty of a supply and the loss to Wudders and others catching them for sale.

7.—The capture of fish can be prohibited for the first three months of the monsoon.

(True Copy.)

(Signed) J. C. WINSCOM,
Deputy-Collector.

Replies to Dr. Day's questions about Fish by Kistna Row, Acting Tahsildar of Collega, Coimbatore District.

1.—There are 120 fishermen in this taluq. Besides catching fish they also carry on husbandry.

2.—Torayars, Oopiliyars, Pariahs, and Mussulmans.

3.—It is not customary to sell fish in the bazaars. People requiring them go to the fishermen's houses to buy them. If more fish are brought they can be sold.

4.—Fish are not sold in the bazaars, but in houses; the price of a large fish is Pice 4. that of a small basketful of small fish Pice 4. The price of mutton of the first sort is 2 Annas a pound; no mutton of the second sort is sold.

5.—Three-fourths of the people of this taluq eat fish.

6.—Ten years ago fish were being extensively brought; but now the import has decreased.

7.—Small fish are taken during the rains; they are caught by means of a bamboo basket called Kodappai.

8.—The smallest size of the mesh is such that one can pass through it only a sort of grass known as "Kanumbillu."

9.—Fish are trapped during the rains in irrigated fields.

10.—Fish are caught by casting nets, and also by means of hooks and by placing bamboo baskets against currents. The native names respectively are Valye (வலை), Thoondi (தூண்டி), and Moongaipootty (மூங்கைப்பூட்டி).

(True Translation.)

(Signed) J. C. WINSCOM,
Deputy-Collector.

Replies to Dr. Day's questions about Fish by M. Biligiri Row, Tahsildar of Darapuram, Coimbatore District.

1.—There are 30 men of the Siviya caste. They pursue no other occupation than that of catching and selling fish. They likewise carry palanquins.

2.—Besides the Siviya above mentioned Valayars, Jedars, and Mahomedans catch fish for domestic use by means of their vestie (cloth), hooks, and small nets.

3.—The market is not fully supplied by the Siviya. If more fish are brought they can be sold.

4.—Fish sold in the bazaar caught before sunrise, and not dried, was found to weigh as follows:—

A large fish 4½ inches long weighed 25 Rupees. The price of this is 4½ Pice. A small fish from one to two inches long was sold at 2 Pice: no fixed price obtaining, but it varies with the demand on the part of buyers, and anxiety to sell on the part of the sellers. The price of mutton of the first sort is 1 Anna per seer of 24 Rupees weight, that of mutton of the second sort is 10 Pies per seer; it is sold without any fixed price.

5.—The total population of the taluq is 216,933, seven-eighths of whom eat fish.

6.—It appears that fish has been decreasing for the last few years.

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7.—During the rains small fish are caught by casting nets from river banks.

8.—To give an idea of small mesh a small piece of the net is attached.

9.—Fish are caught in the Nunjah fields during the rains.

10.—1. By casting nets. 2. A sort of basket is made of the small sticks separated from the cocoanut leaf, and these baskets are placed in channels and in the fields so as to let water pass through them; fish are thus caught. 3. By means of hooks (Thoondi). 4. At the time when water subsides the refuse of tobacco is put into the water where it is deep, in consequence of which the fish become senseless, and they are then caught. 5. The plant known as Kodikkally or Pachan is beaten with stones and thrown into water, in consequence of which the fish become senseless, and they are then caught.

(True Translation.)

(Signed) J. C. WINSCOM,
Deputy-Collector.

Replies on Dr. Day's questions about Fish by B. Sunker Row, Tahsildar of Oodumulpettah, Coimbatore District.

1.—There are 160 men. They pursue other occupations also, such as working for wages, etc., besides catching fish.

2.—Siviyar, Arashapully, Mahomedans, Pullars, Ambalakars, Dombars, Voddars, Kallars, Maravars, Valayars, Agambadiyars, and Jedars.

3.—It is not usual to sell fish in the bazaar. They are brought from the villages in this taluq and from Palghaut on market days. There is no full supply of fish. If more are brought they can be sold.

4.—In the markets the price of a large fish varies from 8 to 12 Annas, and that of a small fish from ½ Anna to 4 annas. The price of mutton of the first sort is Annas 1-4 per seer of 24 Rupees weight, and that of mutton of the second sort Anna 1 per seer.

5.—The total population is 122,552. One-fourth of this won't eat fish, but the remaining three-fourths will.

6.—The supply is as usual.

7.—Small fish are not caught during the rains.

8.—The mesh is of the size of a Veeraroyen Fanam, but not less.

9.—They are caught to a very slight extent.

10.—They are caught as follows:—1. The hook fastened with some worm is thrown into the water. As soon as the fish gets entangled in the hook it is taken up. 2. Nets are cast in the water and then dragged by means of the string fastened to it. The fish which get entangled in the net are then taken out. 3. Small nets (Kai Valai) are placed aslant in the water, and fish getting entangled in it are then taken out. 4. By means of baskets—Thoondi, Veesu Valai, Kai Valai, and Pottykoode.

(True Translation.)

(Signed) J. C. WINSCOM,
Deputy-Collector.

Replies to Dr. Day's questions about Fish by C. Rungappah, Acting Tahsildar of Pulladum, dated 12th April 1872.

1.—There are 20 fishermen. They carry on husbandry whenever they do not catch fish. Some of them are Arrack contractors and bearers.

2.—Siviyars, Savanikars, and Summatiers.

3.—The markets in this taluq are not supplied. The weekly markets at Pulladum, Sooloor, Tiroopur, and other places are not sufficiently supplied. If more fish are brought they can be sold.

4.—Large fish are not brought to the taluq for sale. The price of a lot of 20 small fish is 3 Pies. The price of mutton of the first sort is Annas 2-6 per seer, and that of mutton of the second sort Annas 2.

- 5.—With the exception of the Brahmins, Saivals, and Komaties people of other castes eat fish.
- 6.—For want of water in tanks and rivers fish have been decreasing.
- 7.—During the rains small fish are caught by casting nets, but they are not found to a large extent.
- 8.—The smallest mesh is such as a needle can pass through it. The net is woven with a needle.

9.—During the rains fish are usually caught in Nunjah fields.

10.—By placing bamboo baskets facing the current ; by means of a round basket of one cubit, made of fine sticks taken from the leaves of the cocoanut trees.

The names of the nets, etc., are as follow :—

Varaivalaye.—This is 4 fathoms broad and 10 fathoms long. The mesh is of such size as to admit of a Bengal gram. This is used in catching fish in deep standing water, wells, ponds, tanks, etc.

Veeshuvalaye.—This is round and 8 fathoms in circumference. The mesh is of such a size as to admit of a grain of dholl. This is used in catching fish everywhere. Iron balls as big as Soondacoy (edible unripe fruit) are fastened to the ends of the net.

Thalloovalaye.—This is 2 fathoms broad and 30 fathoms long. The mesh is so large that three fingers can pass through it. This is used in catching large fish.

Periya Thoondi (large hook).—A piece of iron as long as a finger is bent in the form of a bow, to which a string is attached. Fish are caught by casting this hook with different kinds of flesh fastened to it.

Sinna Thoondi (small hook).—A piece of iron as long as half a finger is bent in the form of a bow, to which a string is attached. Fish are caught by casting this hook with different kinds of flesh fastened to it.

(True Translation.)

(Signed) J. C. WINSCOM,
Deputy-Collector.

Replies to Dr. Day's questions about Fish by the Tahsildar of Bhowany, Coimbatore District.

1.—There are 373 fishermen ; those of the Sembadavar caste follow the profession of fishing alone, while the others pursue different other occupations.

2.—Sembadavars, Siviars, Pallis, Vannars (Washermen), Jamakkana Andy, Jedars (Weavers), Odakkars (ferry men), Mussulmans, Kaikolars, and Chucklers.

3.—The markets are sufficiently supplied. If more fish are brought they cannot be sold.

4.—The price of a large fish varies from 1 to 6 Annas, and that of a small one from 1 Pie to 1 Anna. The price of mutton of the first sort is 2 Annas a pound of 40 Rupees weight, that of mutton of the second sort Annas 1½.

5.—Seventy-five thousand men may eat fish, i. e., three-fourths of the population.

6.—The fish has been decreasing for the last two or three years.

7.—Small fish are caught during the rains by means of hooks, baskets called Koduppai, and Kalathai Thoondi (another sort of hook.)

8.—The smallest mesh is quarter of an inch. One cannot pass his little finger through it.

9.—This practice does not obtain in this taluq.

10.—Fish are caught by means of Veechoo Valye (casting nets), Sinna Valye (small net), Vodookoo Valye, Kal Valye, Gaja Valye, Thoondi (hook), Nedu Valye, Kodappai (basket), Kolatti Thoondi, Rattoo Thoondi, Thiroogani Thoondi.

(Signed) C. RAMIAH,
Sheristadar in Charge.

(True Translation.)

(Signed) J. C. WINSCOM,
Deputy-Collector.

Replies to Dr. Day's questions about Fish by C. Naranier, Acting Tahsildar of Coimbatore, Coimbatore District, dated 16th April 1872.

1.—There are 156 Sembadavars and others in this taluq. They all catch fish and also carry palanquins, but only two or three of them carry on agriculture and trade.

2.—Sembadavars, Siviars, and Kempaties.

3.—The markets are sufficiently supplied, but fish are not sold to a large extent.

Price per lb.

	RS.	A.	P.
4.—A large fish is that which is more than one foot long	0	0	6
A small fish is that which is less than one foot long	0	0	3
Mutton, 1st sort	0	3	6
Do. 2nd sort	0	2	0

5.—The total population of the taluq is 242,498, 2½ths of whom eat fish.

6.—Fish have been decreasing, tanks and channels having received no seasonable supply of water this year.

7.—During the rains small fish are caught by means of nets, Pari (bamboo mat slopes), Sharapanaye, Thoore Valaye (small nets), and Thoondies (hooks).

8. The meshes are half, quarter, and one-eighth inch square.

9.—Yes.

10.—The vernacular names of the nets, etc., are Pari (bamboo mat slopes), Sharapanaye, Thoore Valye (small nets), and Thoondi (hook). Fish are caught by these means.

(True Translation.)

(Signed) J. C. WINSCOM,
Deputy-Collector.

Replies to Dr. Day's questions about Fish by C. Seetharamiah, Tahsildar of Garoor, Coimbatore District.

1.—The number of fishermen cannot be stated for certain. The fishermen also pursue other occupations. The number of them might be about 200.

2.—Mavaliyars, Sembadavars, Ambalakar, Arasupulli, Mahomedans, Pallars, Vadugars, Odakkars, and Washermen.

3.—The local markets are sufficiently supplied. If large fish are brought they can be sold.

4.—The price of a large fish is 3 Annas, and that of small fish 1 Anna. Small fish are sold by heaps. The price of mutton of first sort is 3 Annas per seer, and that of second sort is 2 Annas.

5.—The total population is 176,109 ; two-thirds of this number eat fish.

6.—Stationary.

7.—Small fish are not caught during the rains.

8.—This is the size of the mesh ☐

9.—Not usual.

10.—Fish are caught by means of casting nets, by means of a stick to which a string with flesh at one end of it is fastened, and also by draining the water.

Vechoo Valaye (casting nets), Thoondi (hook).

(True Translation.)

(Signed) J. C. WINSCOM,
Deputy-Collector.

Replies to Dr. Day's questions about Fish by M. R. Vencataramiah, Acting Tahsildar of Perundoray, Coimbatore District, dated 27th April 1872.

1.—There are about 50 men in this taluq. They always earn a livelihood by catching fish in the Cauvery and other rivers. At the time when there are freshes in the river, and when consequently no fish can be caught, they work for hire.

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- 2.—Sembadavars, Palars, and Lubbays.
- 3.—The markets are not fully supplied. If more are brought they can be sold.
- 4.—Up to this time large fish have been sold at a price not exceeding Rupees 3, and small fish at a price not less than 1 Pie.
- 5.—The population of this taluq consists of 232,920 souls, five-eighths of whom eat fish.
- 6.—The supply is always alike.
- 7.—During the rains very small fish are caught to a slight extent. They are caught by means of a basket called Kodappai and nets of very small meshes.
- 8.—The smallest mesh is one-eighth of an inch.
- 9.—No fish are caught by casting nets in Nunjah fields.
- 10.—Fish are caught by means of Thoondi (hooks) fastened with bait, by casting nets (Veechoo Valaye), by casting Vodookoo Valaye (a sort of net) in places where the water stagnates, and by fixing pegs along the course of the water to which a basket called Kodappai is tied. These are called Shedy or Koochy "Thoondi," Lamattore or Kayar "Thoondi," Kodumboo or basket, Veechoo Valaye, and Vodookoo Valaye.

(True Translation.)

(Signed) J. C. WINSKOM,
Deputy-Collector.

*Replies to Dr. Day's questions about Fish by C. Vencataramaniah, Tahsildar of Pollachy,
Coimbatore District.*

- 1.—There are about 30 fishermen in this taluq. Their usual occupation is fishing, but they also work for cooly and bear palanquins at times.
- 2.—Kunnadia and Tamil Siviarys and Arasapallies.
- 3.—During the hot season of the year fish is supplied in the markets of Polachy, Annamalay, Vadakeepolliem, and other places in this taluq, and they (the fishermen) bring for sale in small quantities but not daily; more fish will be sold if brought more than the present supply, but during the rainy season there being no supply of large fish I think there would be an equal demand for it as in the hot season if they are supplied.
- 4.—The price of large fish is not restrictive, but would go according to their sizes. The price of a fish to the length and thickness of a shank is about 4 Annas, and that of second in size 3 Annas, and so on. Small fish is sold at 2 Annas per measure. First sort of mutton is not sold here, second sort of mutton is sold at 1½ Annas per pound.
- 5.—Three-fourths of population are eating fish; considering the quantity of the supply it will be quarter.
- 6.—Fish have neither increased nor decreased, and are in an ordinary progress. No fish have remained stationarily of late years.
- 7.—During rainy season very small fish are taken in small quantities by means of small traps of bamboo slips called Paries (பரிசு) placed in the channels, sluices, etc. Nets are also used but very seldom.
- 8.—The smallest size of nets is 8 feet in diameter and 24 in circumference.
- 9.—Very little.
- 10.—1. By means of nets. 2. By means of fishing hooks. 3. By means of paries. 4. By drawing water in the shallow parts of rivers, streams, and tanks having raised bunds to prevent the connection of main stream or water.

The native names of various forms of nets, traps, or snares are—Kodumbay (கொடும்பை), Veasoo Valaye (விசுவலை) Othoocoo Valaye, (ஒதுக்குவலை), Ari Valye (அரிவலை).

Remark.—Plenty salt-fish has been brought from Palghaut, and sold at every fair day at Pollachy.

(True Copy.)

(Signed) J. C. WINSKOM,
Deputy-Collector.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
19th August 1872.*

Replies to Dr. Day's questions about Fish by the Tahsildar of Suttimungalum.

- 1.—The number cannot be stated for certain. There may be about 1,000 men. Among the fishermen caste the Sembadavars row ferry basket boats, and Siviarys carry palanquins, etc.; further, people of the above castes, as well as others catching fish, generally carry on husbandry, and also work for wages.
- 2.—Sembadavars, Siviarys, Padayachi, Woddurs, Pullars, Vellalurs, Vettuvarys, Okkiliarys, Thottiyarys, Koravars, Valayars, Vadurs, Nashavars (Barbers), Koshavars (Potters), Kaikkolarys, Jaedurs, Mahomedans, Vadoogurs, Pariahs, Chucklers, Sinars (Toddy-drawers) and Thorayars.
- 3.—Not sufficiently supplied. If more fish are brought they can be sold.
- 4.—The price of a large fish varies from 1 to 2 Annas, and that of a small fish from 1 to 3 Pice. The price of mutton of the first sort varies from 8 Annas to one Rupee per seer, that of mutton of the second sort from 4 to 6 Annas.
- 5.—Three-fourths of the population of the taluq eat fish.
- 6.—Fish have been decreasing for the few years.
- 7.—Small fish are caught by casting Kai Valaye (small nets).
- 8.—The smallest mesh is as large as one-eighth Rupee piece.
- 9.—Fish are not caught during the rains in Nunjah fields.
- 10.—Names of nets, etc.—Kai Valaye (small nets), Thoondi (hooks), Thoori Valaye, Ari Valaye, Kodambu, and Sharum.

MODE OF CATCHING FISH.

- 1.—Kai Valaye.—This is cast into the water and fish are caught.
- 2.—Thoondi.—This is cast into the water and fish are caught one by one.
- 3.—Thoori Valaye, i. e., a piece of bamboo, or some other stick as thick as two fingers, is bent in the form of a bow and the net is fastened to it. People hold it just below the kolvoy or anicut and the fish fall into the net with the water.
- 4.—Ari Valaye.—This is 3 cubits broad and 30 or 40 cubits long. A number of men holding it across the river go up the river sifting.
- 5.—Kodambu.—This is a basket made up of bamboo. The breadth of the water-way is narrowed by dams from either bank of the river. The bamboo basket is then placed in the opening facing the current; the fish passing with the water fall into the basket, from which they cannot escape.
- 6.—Sharum.—When the river is low stones are placed in a line across it, with an opening in the middle a cubit in width. A bamboo thutty one foot square is placed in the opening and a pit made near the current; fish coming up facing the water are obstructed by the thutty and fall into the pit where they are caught.

(Signed) M. VENCATARAMANIAH,

Sheristadar.

(True Translation.)

(Signed) J. C. WINSKOM,
Deputy-Collector.

From H. E. SULLIVAN, Esq., Acting Collector of South Arcot, to the Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Cuddalore, 27th June 1872, No. 191.

WITH reference to the Board's Proceedings, dated 30th November last, No. 4,350, I have the honour to transmit the answers furnished by the Divisional Officers and two of the Tahsildars in this district to the questions entered in paragraph 11 of Dr. Day's prefatory letter to his Report on the Fish and Fisheries of India, as also specimens of the nets used.

2. Having but recently joined the district I am not in a position to afford any information myself on the subject.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
19th August 1872.*

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

Answers by G. K. Chamberlain, Esq., Head Assistant Collector.

1.—Yes, whenever they can be caught conservancy is utterly unknown, and I am convinced will never be voluntarily undertaken.

2.—They are taken with nets at all times, and I have never seen a native put a fish back into the water whatever might be its size. I believe that most fish deposit their spawn about the month of December. This providentially remains unhatched in the mud until the tanks receive their fresh supply from the south-west monsoon about July or August; but if this fails, not until the north-west monsoon in October. As far as I can learn all the tanks in this division dry up completely about April or May, and the entire supply of fish is cleared out by the ryots and others. The ova seem to retain their vitality in a wonderful manner throughout the hottest seasons, and as they are fortunately not hatched until the rainy season when the ryots are too busy to do much in the way of fishing, and no boats are used on any of the tanks, they have a chance of escaping capture till the water becomes low in February, March and April.

3.—The smallest mesh of net is about one-eighth of an inch.

4.—There would be some difficulty in enforcing any such regulation, but as regards tank fish this would be unnecessary since all the fish must perish when the water dries up, and this is almost invariably the case every hot season. Besides this there are numbers of very small fish about the size of minnows, which never increase beyond four or five inches in length and about half an inch in breadth. With regard to sea fishing I believe the size of mesh employed is seldom smaller than one inch between knot and knot.

5.—Not less than one inch for sea and backwater fishing, but for the reason stated above I do not consider any regulation necessary for tank fishing.

6.—I think the annoyance which would be caused by such a measure would more than counterbalance any advantage which might accrue. This remark applies to my division, where there is no river with a permanent supply of water.

7.—Does not apply to this division.

(True Copy.)

(Signed) H. E. SULLIVAN,
Acting Collector.

ENCLOSURE No. 2.

From A. L. LISTER, Esq., Acting Sub-Collector, to the Acting Collector of South Arcot, No. 217.

In answer to Mr. Garstin's letter, No. 195, dated 23rd March 1872, I have the honour to submit the following answers to the seven questions asked by Dr. Day regarding the fresh-water fish and fisheries:—

1.—Breeding fish are not destroyed to any great extent, but very young ones are.

2.—In rivers, river channels, tanks and ponds between February and May when the water is low; in the Vadavar from October to December. Nets Valai and Kanni Valai and traps of various kinds are used.

3.—So small as only to allow a quill to pass.

4.—None, beyond the difficulty of enforcing the rule.

5.—Three-fourths of an inch.

6.—The poorer classes would suffer if an article of their usual food were withdrawn from the bazaars.

7.—None.

(True Copy.)

(Signed) H. E. SULLIVAN,
Acting Collector.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
19th August 1872.*

ENCLOSURE No. 3.

Answers by C. Kough, Esq., Assistant Collector.

1.—No discrimination it is feared is used in the capture either of breeding or small fish. Fishermen are not, as a rule, provident.

2.—In tanks, principally in the month of April when the water is low; in rivers from January to March after freshes.

3.—I have seen nets of about quarter of an inch in mesh, or perhaps even smaller.

4.—The answer to this question depends upon whether the fisheries are to be regulated by legislation or not. As long as they are not there is, of course, no authority either to determine or enforce a limit. If brought under legal supervision the size would, of course, be determined relative to the species of fish in the localities and their times of spawning, etc., and any difficulty then remaining would rest in the matter of surveillance.

5.—Must vary with circumstances as to the locality, species of fish, and time of capture.

6.—The answer to this is involved in that to No. 4.

7.—Not applicable to this taluq.

(True Copy.)

(Signed) H. E. SULLIVAN,
Acting Collector.

ENCLOSURE No. 4.

Answers.

Questions.

1.—What number of fishermen are there in your range, and are they only such or do they pursue other occupations?

2.—What are the names of the fishermen castes in your district?

3.—Are the local markets fully supplied with fish, or could more be sold?

4.—What is the price of large and small fish in the bazaar, and also that of first and second sort bazaar mutton?

5.—What proportion of people eat fish?

6.—Have the fish increased, decreased, or remained stationary of late years?

7.—Are very small fish taken in any quantity during rains; if so, how?

8.—What is the smallest size of the mesh of the net employed?

9.—Are fish trapped in irrigated fields during the rains?

1.—The number of fishermen in the taluq is 1,705; one-eighth of this number also cultivate lands in addition to their profession.

2.—The names of the fishermen castes in the taluq are Sembadavars, Karayars, Panasavars, Salangacars, and Meenpullies. Except Sembadavars and Meenpullies the other castes fish in the sea.

3.—The local markets in the taluq are fully supplied with fish.

4.—The largest fish is sold for 2 Annas per head, the small fish is sold at 1 Anna per tuk weighing 50 pollams. The bazaar mutton of the same weight is sold for Annas 6-3, or Anna 1 per seer weighing 8 pollams.

5.—The population of the taluq is 230,586; three-fourths of it eat fish.

6.—From inquiries made of the fishermen I learn that the fish decreased of late years to what it was ten years ago.

7.—During rains I learn that small fish is taken in irrigating channels by placing a number of wicker traps described in Plate No. 5.

8.—The smallest size of the mesh of the net employed is one-fourth of an inch. (Vide Plate No. 1 herewith submitted.)

9.—Fish are trapped in the irrigated fields by placing wicker traps at the mouths of the small channels in the irrigated fields during the rains.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
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Questions.

10.—Enumerate the various sorts of fishing and give the native names of any form of net traps or snare used in taking fish in your range?

Answers.

10.—Fish is taken by casting nets in ponds, large irrigating channels, rivers, and backwater canals by throwing fish-rods and by placing wicker traps in small channels.

The native names of different kinds of nets and traps used for catching fish are given below:—

- செய்யாலை (Plate No. I.)
- பெருக்கலை (Plate No. II.)
- காத்தலை (Plate No. III.)
- கொக்கலை (Plate No. IV.)
- கச்சாப்பறி (Plate No. V.)
- காத்தலை (Plate No. VI.)
- தூவா, fish-rod, in common use throughout the country.

The wicker basket described in Plate No. VI. is used during the hot weather, when the rivers and channels are low. A number of men, say 50 or 60, carry along the bed of the streams these baskets, place them in the beds, and catch the fish that are entrapped within the baskets.

(Signed) P. VENOOGOPAL,
Tahsildar.

(True Copy.)

(Signed) H. E. SULLIVAN,
Acting Collector

ENCLOSURE No. 5.

Questions.

1.—What number of fishermen are there in your range, and are they only such or do they pursue other occupations?

2.—What are the names of the fishermen castes in your district?

3.—Are the local markets fully supplied with fish, or could more be sold?

4.—What is the price of large and small fish in the bazaar, and also that of first and second sort bazaar mutton?

Answers.

1.—On the coast, between 2 and 300 houses; inland, about the same number. They have cultivation besides fishing.

2.—On the coast, Carriars, Patnavars; inland, Shemdavars and Pullies.

3.—On the coast, fish daily comes to the market and is eagerly purchased; inland, only at certain seasons, that is, from February to May. There is no limit to the consumption of fish. Any quantity that may be brought will find a ready sale.

4.—The price varies considerably and according to the locality. In Merkanum the price ranges from 1 Anna to 12 Annas, according to size and species of fish; in the cusbah of Tindevanum between 2 to 4 Annas, according to supply; in the villages, between 6 to 12 Pice. A seer of mutton, first sort, is 3½ Annas, second sort 2½ Annas, and third 2 or 1½ Annas.

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19th August 1872.*

Answers.

5.—Except Sivas, Brahmins, Jainis, Chetties, and Acharies, all other castes eat fish. I reckon the excluded caste to be about ten per cent. of the population.

6.—I should say that the supply of fish has diminished of late, especially on the coast. This is attributed to the bad seasons we have had for the last 17 or 18 years. The fish appear to have receded far and deep into the sea. I recollect and remember seeing fishermen in Cuddalore going early and returning late with empty nets.

7.—Yes, very largely, especially when tanks fill and escapes are let open, with nets and sort of work called "Paries."

8.—One-eighth of an inch in diameter. The most of nets used are graduated in size, the lower most part is about half an inch, and the size gradually diminishes as it rises; but there is no mesh less than one-eighth of an inch. This is the hand-net thrown in rivers and pools. The mesh of the drag-net is between one and two inches in diameter.

9.—When the water runs from escape they generally flow on irrigated fields. Small fries are carried by the current; but, as a rule, they are not caught or trapped.

10.—1. Thurivalay; 2. Perivalay; 3. Maravalay.

In No. 1 Valay — Prawns, Shrimps, Cathalay, Suthumboo.

In No. 2.—Sear, Vanjinam, Vaval (black and white), Movana Suthumboo, Kelthi, Shark, Novalay, Kanankythay, Valay, Nethili, Shrimps, Cavalay, Kilichal, Para.

In No. 3.—The same as above.

The above on the coast; in tanks and rivers, the Chennavalay, Vergithyvalay, Suruvai, and a sort of wicker work in the shape of a cone, called by the natives "Oothal." The last is principally used when the tank gets puddled and fish get imbedded in mud. It is a kind of trap.

To catch crabs they use pith about four to six inches long which are sprung to a line made of hemp crosswise of about 20 to 30 yards long, from four to six inches apart, and

Questions.

5.—What proportion of people eat fish?

6.—Have the fish increased, decreased, or remained stationary of late years?

7.—Are any small fish taken in any quantity during rains; if so, how?

8.—What is the smallest size of the mesh of the nets employed?

9.—Are fish trapped in the irrigated fields during the rains?

10.—Enumerate the various sort of fishing, and give the native names of every form of net, trap, or snare used in taking fish in your range?

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
19th August 1872.*

Question.

Answer.

to each pith a bait of frog or prawn is attached and the line is stretched along the backwater till the bait is taken.

(Signed) F. DIQUE,
Tahsildar.

(True Copy.)

(Signed) H. E. SULLIVAN,
Acting Collector.

From C. T. LONGLEY, Esq., Collector of Salem, to the Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Salem, 18th July 1872, No. 181:—

With reference to Board's Miscellaneous No. 4,350, dated the 30th November last, I have the honour to enclose my answers to the queries of Dr. Day on fisheries.

2. The answers of the several Tahsildars are also enclosed.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

Answers by the Collector of Salem to Dr. Day's queries on Fisheries.

- 1.—It is done to a considerable extent. Fish are taken indiscriminately.
- 2.—By various means—by nets, baskets, hooks, etc.; in tanks, rivers, etc.
- 3.—About one-fourth of an inch.
- 4.—None. It is made penal to use a mesh smaller than the one laid down by law.
- 5.—I cannot advise on this matter.
- 6.—Loss of trade to fishermen and food to persons in indigent circumstances.
- 7.—Does not refer to this district.

(Signed) C. T. LONGLEY,
Collector.

ENCLOSURE No. 2.

Answers made by the Tahsildar of Trichengode.

- 1.—About 500, who pursue other occupations as well.
- 2.—Sembadavars and Odakars especially; some other castes, such as Pully, Gaders, and Mahomedans also catch fish.
- 3.—Fish procurable in this taluq are taken to markets of towns as there is no great demand for them in the local markets.
- 4.—The price of large fish is 3 Annas each, and that of small fish 9 Pice each. The price of very small ones is 1 Pie per fifteen. The price of first sort mutton is 2 Annas and 8 Pice, and that of second sort 2 Annas.
- 5.—About 200,000.
- 6.—Stationary.
- 7.—Yes, but in very small quantities.
- 8.—Half an inch in diameter.
- 9.—No, except in some places.
- 10.—The native names of nets, etc., are—1. Kyathuvalai, or nets with large meshes; 2. Aringavalai, or nets with small meshes; 3. Thurivalai; 4. Thundi; 5. Pari; and 6. Uttal.

(True Translation.)

(Signed) J. W. JOHNSTON,
Deputy Collector, for Collector.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
19th August 1872.*

ENCLOSURE No. 3.

Answers made by the Tahsildar of Tripatore.

- 1.—About 200; they pursue other occupations.
- 2.—Sembadavars and Besters.
- 3.—The local markets are well supplied with fish in certain seasons, i. e., from January to April, during which tanks gradually dry up.
- 4.—The price of large fish in the bazaar is 1 Anna each, and that of small fish is 2 Pice each. The price of small ones is 1 Anna per Madras measure.
- 5.—About three-fourths of population.
- 6.—Decreased.
- 7.—Yes, by means of nets of small meshes.
- 8.—One-fourth of an inch in circumference.
- 9.—Yes, in irrigated fields and beds of tanks.
- 10.—One sort of fishing is by raising a bund across a stream, placing a basket made in the shape of a sieve, and baling water into it; another way is by angling; and the third way by casting nets. The native names of nets, etc., are Valai, Thundukol, and Jalladaikudai.

(True Translation.)

(Signed) J. W. JOHNSTON,
Deputy Collector, for Collector.

ENCLOSURE No. 4.

Answers made by Namcul Tahsildar.

- 1.—About 5,000; they pursue other occupations occasionally.
- 2.—Bestar, Mahomedans, Oobbilyar, Mavaliyar, and Pullars.
- 3.—Bazaars are not well supplied with fish except on weekly market days. I cannot positively say that more fish could be sold.
- 4.—The price of large fish in the bazaar varies from $\frac{1}{2}$ Anna to 4 Annas, in proportion to their size. The price of small fish is 1 Pie per 10 or 12. The price of first sort bazaar mutton is 4 Annas, and that of second sort 3 Annas per pound.
- 5.—About 150,000.
- 6.—Decreased.
- 7.—Yes, in small quantities.
- 8.—About one-eighth of an inch square.
- 9.—No.
- 10.—The various sorts of fishing are by means of different nets. The native names of these nets are Valai, Thundi, Kachal, Uttal, and Pari.

(True Translation.)

(Signed) J. W. JOHNSTON,
Deputy Collector, for Collector.

ENCLOSURE No. 5.

Answers made by the Tahsildar of Salem.

- 1.—About 70 or 80; they pursue other occupations as well.
- 2.—Sembadavars, Siviyaars, Maravars, Pally, and Pullars.
- 3.—Local markets are fully supplied with fish, and more fish could be sold.
- 4.—The price of large fish is 6 Pice each, and that of small fish is 8 Pice per Madras measure. The price of first sort mutton is Annas 2-6, and that of second sort is 2 Annas.
- 5.—About three-fourths of the population.
- 6.—Stationary.
- 7.—Yes.

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- 8.—About the size that can admit a Kundamani seed.
9.—Yes, to a small extent.
10.—Various sorts of fishing are by means of different kinds of nets. The native names of nets are Valai, large and small; Kachal Pattays, made of Palmyra leaves and split bamboos and Thundi, or fishing-tackle.

(True Translation.)

(Signed)

J. W. JOHNSTON,
Deputy Collector, for Collector.

ENCLOSURE No. 6.

Answers made by the Dharampoory Tahsildar.

- 1.—About 200 fishermen: they pursue other occupations.
2.—Sembadavars and Besters.
3.—Fish could be had only at weekly markets.
4.—The price of large fish is 2 Annas each, and that of small fish is 6 Pice per manam or half Madras measure; but large fish are not procurable in large numbers. The price of first sort mutton is 2 Annas, and that of second sort 1½ Annas.
5.—About 150,000.
6.—Remained stationary.
7.—Yes, by means of nets.
8.—About the size of a doll.
9.—No.
10.—The native names of nets, etc., are Nulvalai, Pari, Uttal, Thuri, and Thundimulla.

(True Translation.)

(Signed)

J. W. JOHNSTON,
Deputy Collector, for Collector.

ENCLOSURE No. 7.

Answers made by the Kistnogherry Tahsildar.

- 1.—About 50,000; they also pursue other occupations.
2.—1. Sembadavars; 2. Besters; 3. Mahomedans and Lobbays; 4. Pally; 5. Vellalan; 6. Parayan; 7. Sekkili; 8. Valluvan; 9. Baljee; 10. Nasavan; 11. Kurumbars; 12. Kollams; 13. Sharnars; 14. Agamoodiars; 15. Koravars; 16. Vedars; 17. Thombars and Kudum Dasiri.
3.—Neither the local markets are fully supplied with fish nor could more fish be sold.
4.—The price of large fish varies from 3 Pice to 4 Annas, and that of small fish is 1 Anna per 50.
5.—About two-thirds of the population.
6.—Decreased.
7.—Yes, by means of large and small nets.
8.—About one-eighth of an inch in circumference.
9.—Yes.
10.—The various sorts of fishing are by means of nets, traps, hooks, hands, and baskets.

People catch fish by casting nets in the water or by raising bands across a stream and baling water, or by angling. Some catch fish with their hands where the water is muddy, and some by holding a hand-net and beating the water with a pole on four sides of it to frighten the fish. The native names of nets, etc., are Kodamai, Valai, Thuri, Kokki, Uttal, and Kyvalai.
12. Fish may be reared where they are scarce. For this purpose they should be taken alive and reared. In doing so care should be taken not to place fresh-water fish in salt water, else they will die; similarly salt-water fish should be reared in salt water only. People generally prefer fresh-water fish. Fish living in rivers the soil of which is sandy should not be taken out and reared in a tank where the water is muddy. As regards the different modes of fishing, angling is

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
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the one least preferred. By angling, taste of fish is lessened. As it is important in rearing fish to know to what size they grow, I give you the native names of some fish in order of the importance, as follows:—

- | | | |
|------------------|---------------|---------------|
| 1. Molangu. | 8. Valisa. | 15. Lippiti. |
| 2. Puviral. | 9. Korava. | 16. Paravai. |
| 3. Valai. | 10. Yerruttu. | 17. Valay. |
| 4. Sayal Kandai. | 11. Ooloqvai. | 18. Panjalay. |
| 5. Viral. | 12. Kendai. | 19. Aranjam. |
| 6. Not distinct. | 13. Asarai. | 20. Kammodi. |
| 7. Thelatti. | 14. Aral. | 21. Volari. |

(A true Translation.)

(Signed)

J. W. JOHNSTON,
Deputy Collector, for Collector.

ENCLOSURE No. 8.

Answers made by the Ahtur Tahsildar.

- 1.—The fishing class of the people consists of 115 in number in this whole taluq. Their time is chiefly spent in fishing, and partly in burning stones for lime.
2.—The "Sembadavars" are generally the fishing class of the people of this taluq.
3.—No.
4.—The large fish are generally a foot and a half long and are sold at 2 Annas each; the smaller ones are sold one full Madras measure per 2 Annas. The first sort of mutton is 2 Annas per pound, the second 1 Anna per pound.
5.—About one lac (105,000) five thousand of people eat fish.
6.—For the last few years the increase of fish is limited.
7.—Yes, small quantities of young fish are to be had in river-freshes, and they are caught by small circular-shaped handy nets.
8.—The lowest size of the mesh of the nets is one-sixteenth part of an inch. Pattern No. 4 is sent herewith.

9.—No fish is to be found in Nunjah fields in this taluq, consequently no fishing.

10.—The vernacular names of the seven kinds of nets that are used in the taluq are, viz.:—

- No. 1.—Kiruvalai (கிருவலை).
2.—Sannavalai (சன்னவலை).
3.—Varikuthee (வரிகுத்தி).
4.—Serbovalai (செர்வலை).
5.—Ottookatcha (ஓட்டுகச்சா).
6.—Varvalai (வார்வலை).
7.—Vendoovalai alias Kannyvalai (வெண்டுவலை என்கிற கன்னிவலை).
8.—Varkacha (வர்கச்சா).
9.—Sickum (சிக்கம்).

Decreased.

7.—Yes, by means of a trap called Kodamai.

8.—The smallest size of the mesh of nets employed is such as is capable of admitting a broomstick.

9.—Yes.

10.—Kunduvalai, Thathuvalai, Sanapavalai, Alaguvalai, Basarivalai, Yedduppunvalai, and Kandaivalai are the native names of different nets, etc.

(True Translation.)

(Signed)

J. W. JOHNSTON,
Deputy Collector, for Collector.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
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- 4.—The price of large fish (a cubit long) is 1 Anna each, and that of small fish is 4 Pice per small heap.
- 5.—133,000, or about seven-eighths of the population.
- 6.—Decreased.
- 7.—Yes, by means of a trap called *Pari*, which is generally placed across a small stream or other running water.
- 8.—About one-eighth of an inch in square.
- 9.—Yes.

10.—The native names of nets, etc., are as follow—1. *Siruvai*; 2. *Verukathivalai*; 3. *Perungavalai*; 4. *Kachal*; 5. *Vaduvalai*; 6. *Kaivalai* or *Kunjavai*; 7. *Thuri*; 8. *Uttaloo*; 9. *Pari*; 10. *Kodamba*; 11. *Thundumullu*.

The first three are cast into water and then drawn with a rope tied to them. They are all of the same description, but meshes of them are of different sizes.

Vaduvalai is made use of when water is shallow. It is thrown into water lengthwise and the fishes are driven into it from an opposite direction.

Kaivalai or *Kunjavai* is a net that is immersed and held fast at the bottom. When small fish are found swimming on the surface of water the net is taken out and all the fish within its reach are taken in.

Uttaloo is used in the same way.

Kachal is immersed and held fast across the water that runs in rivers, jungle-streams, sluices, and surplus-channels of tanks.

Pari and *Kodamba* are used by being placed across running water when the width of it is not great.

Thundumullu is of the same description as angle or rod with a hook to which a bait is attached.

(True Translation)

(Signed) J. W. JOHNSTON,
Deputy Collector, for Collector.

ENCLOSURE No. 10.

Answers made by the Oosoor Tahsildar.

- 1.—The number of fishermen in my range is 195, who also pursue other occupations.
- 2.—Sembadavars.
- 3.—The local markets are moderately supplied with fish, and more fish could be sold.
- 4.—The price of large fish is 5 to 8 Annas, and that of small fish 3 Pice to 1 Anna. The price of first sort mutton is 4 Annas per pound, and that of second sort is 3 Annas.
- 5.—About 50,000.
- 6.—No.

Net No. 8 is generally used by *ryots*.

Net No. 9 is used by every fisherman as a fish-bag.

(True Translation.)

(Signed) J. W. JOHNSTON,
Deputy Collector, for Collector.

ENCLOSURE No. 9.

Answers made by the Tahsildar of Utengherry.

- 1.—About 133,000, who pursue other occupations as well.
- 2.—Sembadavars and Bestars.
- 3.—No.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
19th August 1872.*

From Dr. F. DAY, Inspector-General of Fisheries, to the Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Simla, 8th July 1872.

With reference to your letter, No. 3,658, dated May 20th, suggesting whether the reports from Collectors in answer to questions in paragraph 11 of my letter of 17th September 1871 and circulated in G. O., November 18th, 1871, to be returned here last May, will be still required, I have the honour to request that any received may be forwarded here at your earliest convenience.

2. Also, if possible, I should feel obliged by any information showing the results from letting the fresh-water fisheries from July last year.

P. S.—Your letter and returns were only received yesterday.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department, dated 12th July 1872, No. 50.

ABSTRACT.—*Fish and Fisheries of the fresh-waters of India*.—Early attention of the Board of Revenue called to the request of the Government of India for an opinion on Dr. Day's report on this subject.

ORDERED that the letters from Collectors above recorded be forwarded to Dr. Day as requested by him.

2. The Collector of Nellore is informed with reference to his letter dated 31st March 1872, No. 635, that fresh replies are required by Dr. Day. The Collectors of Bellary and Salem will expedite the reports promised in their letters marginally noted and all other Collectors who have not yet reported are requested to do so without delay.

3. With reference to paragraph 2 of Dr. Day's letter the Board are not aware that any special measures have been adopted in the matter of leasing fisheries during the past Revenue year.

No. 163. ORDER THEREON, 19th August 1872, No. 1,226.

Miscellaneous.

ORDERED to be recorded.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) W. HUDLESTON,
Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue.

Exd. A. S. Rodgers.

4-08

Copy
Cont. of 1872 STADRS.

REVENUE.

To

THE BOARD OF REVENUE.

Dated August 1904.

Recd.

B-4.

G. O., 1904 August 1872, No. 1,276.

AUGUST.

Nos. 162-163.

Fisheries.—Board's Proceedings forwarding reports of certain Collectors on the subject to Dr. Day and informing latter officer that they are not aware that any special measures have been adopted in the matter of leasing them during the past Revenue year, recorded.

No. 2725-
Rev. 1872. Sept
Board of Revenue,
MADRAS.

PROCEEDINGS, 3RD AUGUST 1872, No. 1,485.

Dep^d 13 Aug 1872
Encl.

Received 17th August 1872

AUGUST.
No. 1,485.

Fisheries.—Reports from certain Collectors on fisheries of their districts forwarded to Dr. Day. Collectors who have not yet reported requested to do so without delay. Dr. Day informed that Board are not aware that any special measures have been adopted in the matter of leasing fisheries during the past Revenue year.

No. 1226.
L. M. S. 2A
19 Aug 1872

No. 162-163

19 Aug 1872 R. 19 Aug 1872

14 To the Board of Rev. = 100.18 Sept 1872