No. 122. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 26th August 1872, No. 1,695:—

Read the following letters:—

From R. W. BARLOW, Esq., Acting Collector of the Chingleput District, to the Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Saidapet, 9th August 1872, No. 335.

WITH reference to the Proceedings of the Board, dated 10th ultimo, No. 1,269, I have the honour to report, that after several consultations with my present and late Salt Deputy-Collectors, copies of whose letters bearing on the subject, are herein enclosed, I have come to the conclusion that under a different system of storage, we may revert to sales by the heap, though we should always be provided with weigh-bridges, in case weighment is demanded. In fact we have already partially reverted to such sales, as we are now disposing of salt both by heap and weighment.

2. The causes for the great wastage, recently brought to notice, over and above the wastage, that must ordinarily occur, were (1) because greater trouble has been recently taken in strict weighment when storing with the new machine; and (2) because salt was at once taken direct from the boats, weighed and ~~heaped, instead of, as formerly, being left for a day or two on the platform.~~

3. My present Deputy-Collector is of opinion that if the following precautions are taken, there should not be a greater wastage than 5 per cent. in the first year after storage.

(1). After unlading salt, letting it dry from four to eight days before storing.

(2). Employment of boats, without leaks, for the transport of salt from the pans, with an improved system of covering.

4. I propose to carry out these improvements as far as practicable, and have sanctioned the additional expenditure detailed by the Deputy-Collector at paragraph 1.

5. As regards weigh-bridges, the Traffic Manager has declined to allow us the use of one. I then applied to the Superintendent of Public Works Workshops and Stores, who replied that he could not make one without infringing a patent. It will therefore be necessary, with the sanction of the Board, to write to England for weigh-bridges; the cost of one on which we can run a Railway truck, including the expenses of laying it down, will be, I understand from the marginal correspondence, Rs. 1,220, but we must have two, in case one gets out of order.

Collector's letter to the Board of Revenue, dated 27th July 1861, No. 250.
Do. do. dated 3rd August 1861, No. 259.

6. My Deputy-Collector further wishes for two machines, such as those used by the Railway Company in weighing heavy baggage, that can be moved from platform to platform, when storing, so as to be able to weigh 60 maunds at a

time. These would, doubtless, be a convenience, but I do not see any pressing necessity for them, while those we have, made by Mr. Grainger last.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.—Copies of letters from the present and late Salt Deputy-Collectors.

From the same Officer, dated 12th August 1872, No. 338.

WITH reference to paragraph 3 of the Board's Proceedings, dated 19th March last, No. 470, I have the honour to forward a Statement, showing the salt sold by weight from the 18th ultimo to the 2nd instant, and the percentage of wastage discovered.

2. It will be observed that three of these heaps were stored as late as 1871-72,* and two under ordinary favourable circumstances, with Mr. Grainger's new machine, and the conclusion I have arrived at, which is shared by my Salt Deputy-Collector, is, that there will, as a rule, be wastage of more than 5 per cent. when salt is stored direct from the boat, unless the weather is exceptionally dry.*

* No. of heaps.
113 8th June 1871.
114 9th ;,
17 24th and 25th July 1871.

3. I have however entered on this subject fully, in replying to Board's Proceedings of the 10th ultimo, No. 1,269.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.—Statement.

IT is satisfactory to find that the sale of salt by the heap has been partially resumed. The measures adopted by the Deputy-Collector for drying the salt more thoroughly before heaping it are judicious.

2. Immediate steps should be taken to remedy the evil arising from the use of leaky boats. It may not be possible to do much this year; but the Collector should at once intimate to the Contractor, that from next year he will be required to provide boats not only free from leaks but also floored so as to allow space for the water draining from the salt itself to lie without injuring the salt. The salt must also be protected either by Tarpaulin or otherwise from rain while in transit from the pans to the Stores.

3. More attention may well be paid to the protection of the salt as it lies near the pans on the banks of the canals before being put into the boats.

4. No time should be lost in procuring two weigh-bridges and two moveable weighing-machines from England. The Board do not doubt that the Agent and Manager, Madras Railway, or the Locomotive Superintendent would, if applied to, readily assist the Collector in procuring the weigh-bridges and machines from the makers who supply the Railway Company, and on the same terms. The Collector should communicate with Mr. Elwin on the subject.

5. These proceedings will be submitted to Government with reference to G. O., dated 26th July 1872, No. 1,126, Revenue Department.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
21st September 1872.

No. 123. ORDER THEREON, 21st September 1872, No. 1,338.

Separate Revenue, No. 13.
Salt.

THE Governor in Council approves the proposal to provide additional facilities for weighing Salt at the Madras Kotars by the use of fixed and movable weigh-bridges, but the supply from England must be obtained by application to the Secretary of State; and for this purpose the Board must forward full details with measurements of the articles required.

(True Extract.)
(Signed) W. HUDLESTON,
Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue.

Exd. F. R. Bantleman.

Rev: 1872: Dept
No 2943.

1872.

Board of Revenue,

MADRAS.

PROCEEDINGS, 26TH AUGUST 1872, No. 1,695.

Dept: 3 Sept 1872
Encl. 30

From Collector of Chingleput, No. 1330, dated 7th September 1872.

Received 7th Sep: 1872

AUGUST.

No. 1,695.

Salt.—Orders passed on letters from Collector of Chingleput regarding weighment of — by heaps.—Board's Proceedings, submitted to Government.

Writ order
No 1338 — 21st Septr 72