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

No. 157. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 6th November 1872, Miscellaneous No. 7,391 :—

Read the following letter from the Collector of Malabar, to the Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Calicut, 23rd October 1872, No. 248.

I HAVE the honour to report on the result of the offer of rewards for alligators, the continuance of which was sanctioned in Government Order dated 6th December 1870, No. 1,945.

2. The number killed, exceeding 8½ feet for which rewards were paid, is noted in the margin. Nothing is known as to the number killed below that size, but it was doubtless considerable, as I have constantly heard gentlemen speak of being disappointed at finding an animal which they had fondly hoped possessed of the desired inches turn out short of them on the tape being applied. Probably too, for every alligator recovered, three or four are killed and lost.

Taluq.	Number of Alligators killed.	Amount of Reward granted.
		RS.
Cherikal	3	30
Calicut	11	110
Ponany	2	15
Total...	16	155

3. A great stimulus to their pursuit would be afforded if the hard and fast line were abandoned and a sliding scale adopted of, say, a rupee a foot. An alligator such as that killed in the Belipatam river the year before last of 16 feet would be far better worth a reward of Rs. 16 than an alligator of 8½ feet is of Rs. 10.

4. No deaths from alligators have been reported in the last year, and no account can be given of the number of cattle. The animal is simply seized by the nose and drowned and nothing more is heard of it, so that unless some one actually observes the seizure the cause of disappearance is mere conjecture.

5. A few days ago a report was received that while three Brahmins were swimming across the Ponany river, one called out to his companion that he was being dragged under by the water-spirits and disappeared: the others hastened on shore, and the remains have not been discovered. No man-eating alligator had been heard of in the neighbourhood, and possibly the man was seized by cramp.

6. I have already given my opinion that it is scarcely worthwhile to offer rewards, except for known man-eaters. Of the sixteen rewards given this year nine were for alligators shot near Calicut where loss of life, either human or of cattle, is seldom complained of.

7. I may add that rewards for two alligators have been claimed since the sanction expired, and these should, at all events, be given as no notice had been published that the reward was withdrawn.

SUBMITTED to Government with the Board's recommendation that the rewards be continued for at least another year, and that the system of calculating them at one rupee a foot and paying for the extermination of alligators of all sizes be adopted.

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

2. It is fairly presumable that when alligators become scarce near Calicut, they will be sought and killed in other localities for the sake of the rewards.

No. 158. ORDER THEREON, 21st November 1872, No. 1,600.

Miscellaneous.

THE Government sanction the continuance of rewards on the new system advocated by the Collector and the Board for a period of two years certain, annual reports being submitted as usual.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) D. F. CARMICHAEL,
Acting Secretary to Government.

Revenue Department

Miscellaneous No. 7,391.

Proceedings of the Board of Revenue
Dated 6th November 1872.

Read the following.

No. 248.

From,

A. MacGregor Esqre.
Collector of Malabar.

To,

J. Grose Esqre.
Secretary to the
Board of Revenue.
Madras.

Sir,

I have the honor to report on the result of the offer of rewards for alligators, the continuance of which was sanctioned in Government Order dated 6th December 1870, No. 1945.

2. The number killed exceeding 8½ feet for which rewards were paid is noted in the margin. Nothing is known as to the number killed below that size but it was doubtless considerable as I have constantly heard gentlemen speak of being disappointed at finding an animal which they had fondly hoped to spear

Taluq	Number of alligators killed	Amount of reward granted
		Rs
Cherikal	3	30
Calicut	11	110
Ponany	2	15
Total	16	155

propsed of the desired inches, turn out shot of them on the tape being applied. Probably too for every alligator recovered 3 or 4 are killed and lost.

A great stimulus to their pursuit would be afforded if the hard and fast line were abandoned and a sliding scale adopted of say a Rupee a foot. Ten alligator such as that killed in the Beliapatam river the year before last of 16 feet would be far better worth a reward of 16 Rs. than an alligator of 8½ feet is of 10 Rs.

No deaths from alligators have been reported in the last year and no account can be given of the number of cattle. The animal is simply seized by the nose and drowned and nothing more is heard of it so that unless some one actually observes the seizure the cause of disappearance is mere conjecture.

A few days ago a report was received that while 3 Brahmins were swimming across the Ponany river one called out to his companion that he was being dragged under by the water spirits and disappeared. The other

hastened on shore and the remains have not been discovered. No man-eating alligator had been heard of in the neighbourhood and possibly the man was seized by cramp.

I have already given my opinion that it is scarcely worth while to offer rewards except for known man-eaters. Of the 16 rewards given this year 9 were for alligators shot near Calicut where loss of life either human or of cattle is seldom complained of.

I may add that rewards for 2 alligators have been claimed since the sanction expired and these should at all events be given as no notice had been published that the reward was withdrawn.-

Malabar Collector's Office
Calicut 23rd October 1872

I have &c
sd/ A. MacGregor
Collector

Submitted to Government with the Board's recommendation that the rewards be continued for at least another year, and that the system of calculating them at one Rupee a foot and paying for the extermination of alligators of all sizes be adopted

adopted:

It is fairly presumable that when allegators become scarce near Calicut they will be sought and killed in other localities for the sake of the rewards.—

True Copy & Extract

H.E. Stokes

Ag Sub Secretary

For the Chief Secretary to Government
Revenue Department

Ch. Erskine Hayes

Gd 6 December 1872 Jno 114-15

Revenue 1872. Octr

No. 3586.

Proceedings of the Board of Revenue

Dated 6th November 1872
Recd 6
Recd 7th

Mis: No 7391.

S.C. No 1800. 21 November 1872

Submitting report of Collr of Malabar on result of offer of rewards for destruction of alligators, & recommending continuance of rewards, &c.

No 157

Forwd

18 Dec 72 R 16

No. 1600.

21st Nov 72

Revd Revs. Bd Rec. Mas. No 7391

For orders.

Boards Rec. 6 Dec 11-72

Misc. No 7391

Why shd not the reward for the destruction of these alligators be made permanent? 1 Rupee per foot in length, as proposed for another year only - They are as great a pest as leopards in jungly districts -

6 Dec 11.

I think it would be advisable to give 1 R per foot - for 2 years certain - annual returns being sent in - Alligators are most destructive to the fisheries. I visit take an alligator

Collr

8-1600.

21st Row 1/2 17 blank

Real Prop. Vol. Rec. Mar. No 791

13W

take to mean Ealing is to
want like London is com.
in Act!

L. O. S.

B.H.

Circ

For Orders.

Continuance of rewards for destruction of alligators Malabar Distt.

C 13th Nov 72 - R 16th

Ans

Ft-1600.

21st Nov 72 3 15 W Mlaude

Read Progs. Bd Rev. Mas. No 791 dy 6- Nov 72.

The Govt sanction the continuance of Rewards on the new system advocated by the Collr to the Bd, for a period of 2 years certain, annual reports being submitted as usual.

Ft-16/11-72

14 To the Board of Revenue Dr &c &c
b. The Accountant Genl Dr

Govt. of {1872} Madras.

REVENUE.

To

THE BOARD OF REVENUE,

&c., &c., &c.

Dated November 21st.

Recd. *Encl.*

G. O., 21st November 1872, No. 1,600.

NOVEMBER.
Nos. 157-158.

Alligators in Malabar District.—The continuance of rewards for their destruction on the new system advocated by the Collector and the Board of Revenue sanctioned for a period of two years.