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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

Revenue DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.	352	Press
B.P. No.		Mis.
Dated	17-3-	1874 196

Not to be folded or roughly handled

No. 156. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 15th November 1873, No. 2,320 :—

Read the following letter from R. W. BARLOW, Esq., Acting Collector of the Chingleput District, to H. E. STOKES, Esq., Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Sydapet, 26th September 1873, No. 438 :—

I HAVE the honour to report on petition (herewith returned) No. 1,891 of 1873, presented by the Salt manufacturers of the northern division.

2. The petitioners complain that they suffered serious loss by the cyclone of May 1872, when their pans were so much damaged, that they were unable to turn out the usual quantity of salt; that the salt in the beds, and on the ridges at the pans, was washed away and destroyed, and that to produce even the quantity they did, they were obliged to incur extra expenditure, for reforming and bringing the pans to working order. In consideration of the above losses, they pray that a compensation of Rupees 20, per pan, may be granted to them. They further allege that, owing to the heavy rains during the manufacturing season this year, they sustained further loss, which they estimate as nearly the same as what they suffered in the cyclone, viz., Rupees 20, per pan.

3. As regards the loss by the cyclone, the Board will perceive from Salt Deputy-Collector's letter, 3rd May, No. 208, read in Board's Proceedings, 10th May 1872, Miscellaneous No. 3,358. the marginal correspondence, that the manufacturers really suffered such, and that whether any, and what, compensation would be necessary, was left, as suggested by Chentsal Rao, to be determined when it became known whether the ryots were, or were not, able to produce the usual quantity during the latter part of the season, i. e., in June and July of 1872.

4. From enquiries* made by the Salt Deputy on the petitions which the ryots presented to me in the first instance, it appears that as much as 1,28,595 maunds of salt, on which a Kudivaram of Rupees 13,140 was payable, was destroyed by the rain. This amount, it will be seen, exceeds slightly that given by Chentsal Rao, but the difference is stated by the Deputy-Collector to be due to more accurate accounts having been since obtained from the several Salt divisions.

5. Further, as the pans had been all damaged by the cyclone, the Deputy-Collector estimates the cost of levelling and reforming them to have been Rupees 25,820, which is at the rate of Rupees 5, per pan, in the north, and of Rupees 10 in the south, the pans at the latter being double the size of those at the former.

6. The above two items of loss aggregate Rupees 38,960, which I consider might be granted to the manufacturers, though they cannot demand it as a matter of right. Of the former item, however, the Deputy-Collector recommends only one half, but why this deduction should be made, he does not explain.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
17th March 1874.*

7. As regards the claim on account of short produce, it turned out contrary to the anticipations of Chentsal Rao, that the salt produced during the latter part of the season *i.e.*, in June and July 1872 was considerably less* than the outturn during the corresponding months in the preceding year. This shows that the pans were seriously damaged, as alleged, by the cyclone; but if the concession, above recommended, is granted to the Salt manufacturers, nothing further, in my opinion, need be done.

Fasli 1280.	Fasli 1281.
* Maunds 10,29,716.	Maunds 4,87,116.

8. As to the alleged loss during the current year, I do not think the season has been altogether unfavourable for Salt manufacture, and though I am willing to accept the statement of the Salt Deputy-Collector that the ryots were put to some inconvenience and extra labour on account of the heavy rains in the beginning of the year, still, as there has been a good outturn, I cannot recommend any further indulgence.

9. In making the above recommendations, I have taken into consideration the condition of the Salt ryots, as described by the Salt Deputy-Collector at paragraph 3; he states that, as a class, they are very poor. I am satisfied too, that they really suffered heavy loss from the cyclone and floods of 1872, and that their present prayer is therefore one that may be treated exceptionally.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.—Petition.

ENCLOSURE No. 2.

From D. V. NARASINGA ROW, Deputy-Collector in charge of Salt, to O. B. IRVINE, Esq., Acting Collector of the Chingleput District, dated Madras, 28th May 1873, No. 346.

With reference to your endorsement, dated 10th December 1872, on the Petition No. 50, presented to the Board of Revenue by the Salt manufacturers of the northern pans, Vullur, Attiput, Pulidiwauk, Voyalur and Kattur, complaining that, during the cyclone of 1st and 2nd May last, their pans were much damaged, and the salt in the beds, and on the ridges, was washed off, and that to re-commence their manufacture, they were put to much expense, and the Kudivaram for the whole quantity of salt made during the year did not cover their outlay; consequently, they pray for a compensation of 1,16,000 Rupees, at the rate of 20 Rupees per pan.

2. Since the receipt of the manufacturers' petition, I have inspected the state of the pans and the condition of the manufacturers more than once, and I have come to the conclusion that during the cyclone of May last, the pans were actually damaged, and the salt in the beds was dissolved, but no estimate could be made of the quantity lost. The average quantity of salt made during the three faslies from 1278 to 1280 in the month of May was 7,35,946 maunds, and the Kudivaram was 72,092 Rupees, whereas the salt produced in the month of May, last fasli, on account of the cyclone, was 81,580 maunds and the Kudivaram was 8,230 Rupees; to show this difference a Statement is enclosed, marked A. Moreover, 99,200 maunds of salt placed on the banks of the boat channels ready to be exported at the northern pans, and 29,395 of Covelong and Vadasammenjary was washed off; the Kudivaram of which would be about 13,140 Rupees. In addition to these two kinds of losses, each manufacturer had to spend about 4 Rupees, the full wages of one man for additional labour, and in repairing the beds at about 1 Rupee for tools, etc.; so the work would have cost the manufacturers of the northern pans alone 22,320 Rupees in the aggregate, the whole loss sustained would be about 1,62,106 Rupees. I went into some of the villages,

No. 2,320.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE, dated 15th November 1873.

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3. As regards the loss by the cyclone, the Board will perceive from the marginal correspondence, that the manufacturers really suffered such, and that whether any, and what, compensation would be necessary, was left, as suggested by Chentsal Rao, to be determined when it became known whether the ryots were, or were not, able to produce the usual quantity during the latter part of the season, *i. e.*, in June and July of 1872.

4. From enquiries * made by the Salt Deputy on the petitions which the ryots presented to me in the first instance, it appears that as much as 1,28,595 maunds of salt, on which a Kudivaram of Rupees 13,140 was payable, was destroyed by the rain. This amount, it will be seen, exceeds slightly that given by Chentsal Rao, but the difference is stated by the Deputy-Collector to be due to more accurate accounts having been since obtained from the several Salt divisions.

5. Further, as the pans had been all damaged by the cyclone, the Deputy-Collector estimates the cost of levelling and reforming them to have been Rupees 25,820, which is at the rate of Rupees 5, per pan, in the north, and of Rupees 10 in the south, the pans at the latter being double the size of those at the former.

6. The above two items of loss aggregate Rupees 38,960, which I consider might be granted to the manufacturers, though they cannot demand it as a matter of right. Of the former item, however, the Deputy-Collector recommends only one half, but why this deduction should be made, he does not explain.

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of the season i.e., in June and July 1872 was considerably less* than the outturn during the corresponding months in the preceding year. This shows that the

pans were seriously damaged, as alleged, by the cyclone; but if the concession, above recommended, is granted to the Salt manufacturers, nothing further, in my opinion, need be done.

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ENCLOSURE No. 1.—Petition.

ENCLOSURE No. 2.

From D. V. NARASINGA ROW, Deputy-Collector in charge of Salt, to O. B. IRVINE, Esq., Acting Collector of the Chingleput District, dated Madras, 28th May 1873, No. 346.

With reference to your endorsement, dated 17th December 1872, on the petition No. 30, presented to the Board of Revenue by the Salt manufacturers of the northern pans, Vullur, Attiput, Pulidiwauk, Voyalur and Kattur, complaining that, during the cyclone of 1st and 2nd May last, their pans were much damaged, and the salt in the beds, and on the ridges, was washed off, and that to re-commence their manufacture, they were put to much expense, and the Kudivaram for the whole quantity of salt made during the year did not cover their outlay; consequently, they pray for a compensation of 1,16,000 Rupees, at the rate of 20 Rupees per pan.

2. Since the receipt of the manufacturers' petition, I have inspected the state of the pans and the condition of the manufacturers more than once, and I have come to the conclusion that during the cyclone of May last, the pans were actually damaged, and the salt in the beds was dissolved, but no estimate could be made of the quantity lost. The average quantity of salt made during the three faslies from 1278 to 1280 in the month of May was 7,35,946 maunds, and the Kudivaram was 72,092 Rupees, whereas the salt produced in the month of May, last fasli, on account of the cyclone, was 81,580 maunds and the Kudivaram was 8,230 Rupees; to show this difference a Statement is enclosed, marked A. Moreover, 99,200 maunds of salt placed on the banks of the boat channels ready to be exported at the northern pans, and 29,395 of Covelong and Vadasammenjary was washed off; the Kudivaram of which would be about 13,140 Rupees. In addition to these two kinds of losses, each manufacturer had to spend about 4 Rupees, the full wages of one man for additional labour, and in repairing the beds at about 1 Rupee for tools, etc.; so the work would have cost the manufacturers of the northern pans alone 22,320 Rupees in the aggregate, the whole loss sustained would be about 1,62,106 Rupees. I went into some of the villages, where the manufacturers are living, and they do not seem to be of better condition than those in the Northern Circar.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department, 17th March 1874.

where the manufacturers are living, and they do not seem to be of better condition than those in the Northern Circar.

3. The Salt manufacturers are generally poor every where; the pans of several ryots in this district are under mortgage, and some have been sold to the merchants at Madras, and the professional manufacturers are working under them like coolies; this being the state of matters, the manufacturers, under my orders, commenced their work early this year, but the heavy pour of rain on the 1st and 2nd February last spoiled the works, whilst in progress, and the water in the canal being as sweet as fresh water, was not fit to be used for some time in preparing the beds; so there has been great delay in recommencing the work, which of course costs a great hardship upon the manufacturers.

4. Under these circumstances, I consider that these men should have some aid from the Government.

5. I therefore recommend that a compensation of 5 Rupees to each set of pans, or 22,320 Rupees for 4,464 pans, be paid to the manufacturers at the northern pans, and at 10 Rupees for 350 pans, or 3,500 Rupees to the manufacturers of Covelong and Vadasammenjary. For at these stations one set of pans is equal to two of the northern pans, and two or three persons are engaged in working, instead of one. I further beg to recommend that half of the Kudivaram of 1,28,595 maunds of salt (amounting to Kudivaram of 6,570 Rupees washed off by the freshes in the river) according to the accompanying list be paid to the manufacturers.

6. If the Government had provided platforms for the Salt manufacturers, such a loss would not have occurred.

7. On referring to the state of the manufacture of last three years, the average quantity was 18,37,058 maunds, the salt made during the last fasli was 10,42,708 maunds, the difference between this and the above average quantity is 7,94,350 maunds, the Kudivaram for the same would be 79,435 Rupees. Under any circumstance, I consider that there has been some loss to the manufacturers.

8. In Fasli 1277 the bars of the sea were closed, and for want of sufficient water not more than 6,55,301 maunds of salt could be made, and the Government, in their Orders, dated 30th December 1868, No. 3,208, and 2nd March 1869, No. 534, were pleased to advance Rupees 49,112 to the ryots, in order to encourage them to proceed with the works, and in their subsequent Order, dated 26th November 1869, No. 3,052, sanctioned the same amount to be considered as having been paid as compensation.

P. S.—You will observe from the letters of the dates noted in the margin, that my predecessor Mr. Chentsal Row brought to the notice of the Collector the loss sustained by the cyclone in May 1872.

3rd May 1872, No. 208.
22nd Do. " 279.

2. The petitions presented by the Salt manufacturers (5 in number) are herewith submitted.
(True Copy.)

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

ENCLOSURE No. 3.

From D. V. NARASINGA ROW, Deputy-Collector in charge of Salt, to R. W. BARLOW, Esq., Acting Collector of the Chingleput District, dated Madras, 28th August 1873, No. 585.

With reference to your letter of the 19th instant, No. 1,020, I have the honour to state that the latter part of the season in 1872 was not favourable, as will be seen from the figures noted in the margin.

	Fasli 1280.	Fasli 1281.	Decrease.
June	7,03,610	3,94,484	3,09,126
July	3,26,106	92,632	2,33,474
Total...	10,29,716	4,87,116	5,42,600

2. A special order was sent to all the Division Superintendents to submit an accurate and correct account of the salt destroyed by the cyclone. With reference thereto, the figures

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
17th March 1874.*

entered in the statements received from the Divisions and forwarded from this Office, showing 1,28,595 Indian maunds as the quantity lost, I believe, is correct; because the statements received in my predecessor's time, were not prepared with reference to any particular object. On the whole, the difference in figures between the two Statements is only 5,500, the value of which is Rupees 550.

3. As regards paragraph 3, I beg to inform you that the sum of Rupees 1,62,106 referred to, was calculated upon the quantity of salt manufactured in last May of the past five years, as shown in the margin, but subsequently I have adopted the average of the past three years only, and alteration was made accordingly except in the figure which represented the aggregate amount of Rupees 1,62,106 instead of 1,02,822, as appears in my letter of the 28th May last. I beg therefore you will be so good as to have it corrected.

	RS.	A.	P.
Total manufacture of three months, April	6,56,882	12	9
May and June of five families	1,31,376	0	0
Average for five families of three months	8,230	0	0
Deduct Kudivaram for the salt produced in May last	1,23,146	0	0
2nd Loss	13,140	0	0
3rd Do.	25,820	0	0
	1,62,106	0	0

4. At paragraph 3 of my letter I made no allusion to further loss sustained by the Salt ryots, but I simply brought to your notice the inconvenience and extra labour that they were put to in the beginning of the salt manufacture, on account of the unfavourableness of the season.

5. The petitions referred to in the concluding paragraph of your letter, were forwarded with my letter of the 27th May last.

(True Copy.)

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

ENCLOSURES Nos. 4 to 6.—Statements.

This letter is submitted for the orders of Government.

2. The Salt manufacturers of the northern division of the Chingleput District pray that on account of the cyclone of May 1872, and of the unfavourable character of the season of 1873, compensation at the rate of Rupees 20 per pan for each year may be granted to them. The amount would be on the pans included in the recommendations noticed below, Rupees 1,92,560 for the two years.

3. The season of 1873 has not been more than ordinarily unfavourable and claims for losses in such seasons ought not in the Board's opinion to be admitted.

4. There is no question however that the cyclone of 1872 caused considerable and altogether exceptional loss. It is estimated after careful enquiry that 128,595 maunds of salt actually formed was destroyed. The Kudivaram on this quantity would be Rupees 13,140. The Deputy-Collector estimates the cost of reforming, and repairing the damage done to the pans themselves at Rupees 5 for the northern and Rupees 10 for the southern pans, which would give Rs. 25,820, or in all Rupees 38,960; and the Collector considers that this sum might be allowed as compensation.

5. The Board think that the whole Kudivaram on salt actually destroyed should be given, but the proposed rates of compensation appear to them somewhat higher than need be allowed. The chief element of loss is not the cost of repairing the pans but the delay in recommencing the manufacture, and this cannot be estimated on exact data. The Board think that it will be sufficient to

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allow in addition to the Kudivaram on salt actually destroyed, compensation at the rate of Rupees 2½ for the northern and Rupees 5 for the southern pans, which would amount to Rupees 12,910. The Kudivaram should be paid to the owners of the pans who actually suffered loss and rest of the compensations to all pan owners alike. It may be thought that inasmuch as the low lying pans would necessarily suffer most, there ought to be differential rates; but the adjustment of these rates would be difficult and could not fail to cause discontent, and the Board think it will be better to pay all at the same rate.

6. They request the sanction of Government to these proposals, involving a total payment of Rupees 26,050.

No. 157.

ORDER THEREON, 17th March 1874, No. 352.

Separate Revenue, No. 13.

Salt.

THE Board's proposal is quite unprecedented and if admitted would prove a most expensive precedent.

2. The salt pans near Madras form valuable private property and fetch high prices when sold. The owners contract to supply Government with salt and the article so manufactured, if of proper quality, is received into store at a fixed price. The proprietors take the risk of a bad season, though in exceptional cases, on good cause shown, an advance to be subsequently deducted from the "Kudivaram," or price paid for the salt, is made to expedite the manufacture.

3. In 1872 these salt pans were damaged and the crop of salt partially lost by "visitation of God." This can form no ground for the present application. As well might the Puttadar require compensation for the loss of his paddy, and payment for the removal of sand from his field over which a flood had swept, as a salt manufacturer expect re-imbursement for salt destroyed or compensation for damage to his pans.

4. The Right Honourable the Governor in Council has no hesitation in rejecting the claim on both heads.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) C. G. MASTER,
Acting Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue.

Ed. G. A. Turton.

REVENUE.

THE BOARD OF REVENUE.

Dated March 17th.

Bid.

Recd.

G. O., 17th March 1874, No. 352.

MARCH.
No. 156-157.

Claim to compensation by salt manufac-
turers of Northern division of Chingleput
District for loss sustained by them by cyclone
of 1872.—Rejects — for reason stated.

3. The Salt manufacturers are generally poor every where; the pans of several ryots in this district are under mortgage, and some have been sold to the merchants at Madras, and the professional manufacturers are working under them like coolies; this being the state of matters, the manufacturers, under my orders, commenced their work early this year, but the heavy pour of rain on the 1st and 2nd February last spoiled the works, whilst in progress, and the water in the canal being as sweet as fresh water, was not fit to be used for some time in preparing the beds; so there has been great delay in recommencing the work, which of course costs a great hardship upon the manufacturers.

4. Under these circumstances, I consider that these men should have some aid from the Government.

5. I therefore recommend that a compensation of 5 Rupees to each set of pans, or 22,320 Rupees for 4,464 pans, be paid to the manufacturers at the northern pans, and at 10 Rupees for 350 pans, or 3,500 Rupees to the manufacturers of Covelong and Vadasammenjary. For at these stations one set of pans is equal to two of the northern pans, and two or three persons are engaged in working, instead of one. I further beg to recommend that half of the Kudivaram of 1,28,595 maunds of salt (amounting to Kudivaram of 6,570 Rupees washed off by the freshes in the river) according to the accompanying list be paid to the manufacturers.

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the latter part of the season in 1872 was not favourable, as will be seen from the figures noted in the margin.

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3. The season of 1873 has not been more than ordinarily unfavourable and claims for losses in such seasons ought not in the Board's opinion to be admitted.

4. There is no question however that the cyclone of 1872 caused considerable and altogether exceptional loss. It is estimated after careful enquiry that 128,595 maunds of salt actually formed was destroyed. The Kudivaram on this quantity would be Rupees 13,140. The Deputy-Collector estimates the cost of reforming, and repairing the damage done to the pans themselves at Rupees 5 for the northern and Rupees 10 for the southern pans, which would give Rs. 25,820, or in all Rupees 38,960; and the Collector considers that this sum might be allowed as compensation.

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allow in addition to the Kudivaram on salt actually destroyed, compensation at the rate of Rupees 2½ for the northern and Rupees 5 for the southern pans, which would amount to Rupees 12,910. The Kudivaram should be paid to the owners of the pans who actually suffered loss and rest of the compensations to all pan owners alike. It may be thought that inasmuch as the low lying pans would necessarily suffer most, there ought to be differential rates; but the adjustment of these rates would be difficult and could not fail to cause discontent, and the Board think it will be better to pay all at the same rate.

6. They request the sanction of Government to these proposals, involving a total payment of Rupees 26,050.

(True Copies and Extract.)

H. K. S. S.

Acting Sub-Secretary.

To the Acting Secretary to Government, Revenue Department,
with three original statements and petition to be returned.
,, the Acting Collector of the Chingleput District.

Ed. G. A. Tutton.

Sep. Revenue
Sect.

No. 352

Revenue Department.

352
1

PROCEEDINGS of the MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Under date the 17th March 1874

Read the following Proceedings of the
Board of Revenue.

Requesting sanction of Govt.
for payment of Rupees 26050 on
account of compensation to Salt
manufacturers of Northern Dist.
of Chingleput Dist. for loss sus-
tained by them by cyclone of
May 1872. Considering the claim
of manufacturers to compensation
owing to alleged unfavourable
Season in 1873 inadmissible.

H. E. 15th Nov. 1873 No. 2320.

The Board's proposal
is quite unprecedented and
if admitted would prove
a most expensive prece-
dent.

2 The Salt pans near
Madras form valuable
private property and
fetch high prices when
sold

Ans: 1873: 244
A. 3795

1873.

Board of Revenue,
MADRAS.

PROCEEDINGS, 15TH NOVEMBER 1873, No. 2,320.

244/24 Nov 73

Encl.

+ 25

Received 25th Nov

NOVEMBER.
No. 2,320.

Compensation—to Salt manufacturers
northern division of Chingleput District for loss
sustained by them by cyclone of May 1872.
Sanction of Government requested for payment
of Rupees 26,050 on account of—claim
manufacturers to compensation owing to alleged
unfavourable season in 1873, considered in-
admissible.

S.O. No. 352-17 March 74

sold. The owners contract
to supply Government
with salt and the article
so manufactured, if
of proper quality, is
received into store at a
fixed price. The proprie-
tors take the risk of a
bad season, though in
exceptional cases, on good
cause shown, an advance
to be subsequently deduct-
ed from the "Kudicarrum",
or price paid for the
salt, is made to expedite
the manufacture.

3 In 1872 these
salt pans were damaged
and the crop of salt par-
tially lost by "visitation
of God". This can form
no ground for the present
application. As well
might the Puttadar

require

35/4
require compensation for
the loss of his paddy,
and payment for the
removal of sand from
his field over which a
flood had swept, as a
salt manufacturer
expect reimbursement
for salt destroyed or
compensation for da-
mage to his pans.

4. The Right Hon-
-rable the Governor in
Council has no hesi-
-tation in rejecting the
claim on both heads.

YML

13th of August
Ser. 18. 3. 74

Ind. H.B.

9.0

Compensation proposed
for certain manufacturers
of salt, Chiefly port D.

Compensation to
Salt manufacturers.

Prop. - Mr. Ken - 15-11-73
No 2820

These people contract to supply
us with salt at so much a mound.
The Mr. Ken is in May '72 - but
is quite certain
calculated - &
if asked that
will find a host to be laid out afresh.
The Mr. Ken is on his account, forsooth, we are
to make him a present of 26,000 Rs.
The salt bears
then the loss are
a valuable loss.
- partly & fetch high
prices when sold.
Our bargain with
the Mr. Ken is
is merely to take
the salt when
made. When a

to see him in May '72 - but
an unusual month for cyclones -
destroyed some of the salt bags were
manufacturing, & damaged some
of their pans, which had been there
a long time & had to be laid out afresh.
If the principle is put into extended
practice, it will be very hard on the
Imperial finances. What is the
reason of it? If we had bound
him under penalty to deliver so
much salt and exacted the penalty
even under the most adverse circum-
stances, it would be harsh - but this
is a purely charitable grant of
public money that is proposed.

S. A. - 2nd 9/74

Season is very hot
 a few other good crops
 in Iluon. just for.
 from the middle and
 ranges, because the
 from the "Coke" season
 a price paid for
 the salt. But I
 have been heard of
 come from the being
 thought of -

The Vans are
 private but best
 I as I said before
 take note.

Lot

I quite agree
 R

The salt pans were damaged by the
 cost of reclamation of land
 as well as the Patter
 upon compensation
 for the loss of his paddy
 the removal of sand - floor
 from his fields over which
 a flood had passed on
 the salt manufacturing
 seek payment for their
 & compensation for damage
 to their property
 I reject the claim
 under both heads. Had
 been sought it might have
 been conceded as taccar
 but not now. 1872

1872

1872

1872

156-157

Compensation
proposed - for certain
Manufacturers of Salt

C. W. 379577

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