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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

Revenue DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.	622	Press
B.P. No.	21.6-214	Mis.
Dated 22. 5. 1964.		

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Not to be folded or roughly handled

1620

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
22nd May 1874.*

Read the following:—

No. 211. Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 20th October 1873,
No. 2,150.

Read the following letter from R. K. PUCKLE, Esq., Collector of Tinnevely,
to H. E. STOKES, Esq., Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue,
dated 19th September 1873, No. 491.

In reply to the Board's Memorandum, No. 1,290, dated 29th ultimo, I have the honour to inform you that the increased sale of salt in July arose from a rapid demand in anticipation of the closing of the principal pans when all last year's stock was disposed of.

2. The two principal pans are now closed, and we can hardly make enough salt to meet the current demand, though a new salt-pan has been lately opened at Levingepuram near Tuticorin.

3. In another two months we shall not have a heap of last year's salt in the district, and with all our exertions we cannot make more than 500 heaps, which is about the annual demand.

4. The Arasadi salt-pans were largely increased last year, and I propose extending the pans at Levingepuram; but still we shall not make enough to meet the demand when the railway is opened. The Travancore Government are willing to take 150 heaps of Tinnevely salt, but we have not got any to spare.

5. Dr. Ratton has just visited the pans, and I await his report as to their relative value, but the great demand will always be at Tuticorin, and we must, therefore, endeavour to manufacture more in that neighbourhood.

—

THE Board will be prepared to consider any proposals that the Collector has to make for increasing the manufacture of salt at Tuticorin.

2. The Collector is requested to explain what pans are closed, and why they have been so closed.

—

No. 212. Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 14th March 1874,
No. 587.

Read the following letter from R. K. PUCKLE, Esq., Collector of Tinnevely, to J. GROSE, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Tuticorin, 14th February 1874, No. 104.

With reference to paragraph 1 of Board's Proceedings, No. 2,150, dated 20th October 1873, I have the honour to inform you that immediately adjoining the new Levingepuram salt-pans at Tuticorin there is, as pointed out by Dr. Ratton, a most excellent site for opening fresh pans; these may be called Sevanda-kulam from the name of a small village in that locality. They may be constructed free of cost to Government by the sale of the right of occupancy of 3,000 salt-beds at 4 Rupees each, at which rate there are many applicants, and the plans

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
22nd May 1874.

and estimates sanctioned in Government Proceedings, No. 792, dated 14th May 1872, for the Levingepuram pans can be made applicable to these.

2. We cannot make too much salt in this locality, as it is within a mile of the railway terminus, and the salt produced this year (eighty-four heaps) is of the very best quality.

3. One 1st-class Superintendent will be able to manage both the Levingepuram and Sevandakulam pans, and I anticipate being able to manufacture 300 heaps yearly, all of which will be carried inland by rail or by the carts which now bring cotton to the coast to carry back salt in return.

The Collector's proposal seems a good one, but, before submitting it for sanction, the Board wish to know whether there are no claims to the land to be satisfied; whether the sale of the occupancy rights may not prove embarrassing, entailing compensation should the pans be closed; whether the estimates for Levingepuram, amounting to Rupees 11,470, have been declared by the Engineering Department to be suitable; and what is the area of the proposed salt-beds, and what steps will be taken to secure that no obstacles shall be raised to the introduction of improvements in the manufacture which may hereafter seem desirable.

2. Dr. Ratton will also be requested to inform the Board what he knows of the site, and what he thinks of the Collector's proposal.

No. 213. Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 1st May 1874,
No. 1,016.

Read again Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 14th March 1874, No. 587.

Read also the following letters:—

From W. H. COMYN, Esq., Acting Collector of Tinnevelly, to J. GROSE, Esq.,
Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Tinnevelly, 31st March 1874,
No. 183.

With reference to the Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 14th March 1874, No. 587, calling for information on certain points in connection with Mr. Puckle's proposals for increasing the manufacture of salt at Tuticorin, I have the honour to state (1) that, as the land in question is Government poramboke, there are no claims to it to be satisfied; (2) that the pans are not likely to be closed, the demand for salt, now great, being likely to increase on the opening of the railway; but in the event of their being closed the sale of the occupancy rights need not entail compensation, as the right of occupancy may be sold for so long a time only as the pans are kept open by Government; (3) that as it is proposed to construct the platform, cutcherry, etc., at Sevandakulam according to the plan and estimate sanctioned for Levingepuram, the Engineer Department were not specially consulted, but their advice will be taken; (4) that the area of the proposed beds is 80 acres; and (5) that no obstacles being likely to be raised to the introduction of improvements in manufacture, no special provisions seem necessary.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
22nd May 1874.

From Surgeon J. J. L. RATTON, M.D., on Special Salt Duty, to C. A. GALTON, Esq.,
Acting Sub-Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Ennore, 28th March 1874.

With reference to Mr. Puckle's proposal to open out new salt-pans on the Sevandakulam swamp, I have the honour to submit the following extract from my report on the Tinnevelly District, which will be shortly before the Board:—

"At the Collector's (Mr. Puckle's) request, I examined some sites for the extension of salt-works in the Tinnevelly District. I will describe here the most promising one of these, which lies immediately south of Levingepuram, close to Tuticorin.

"It is an immense swamp, the Deputy-Collector, who measured it, informs me, nearly a mile in length by half a mile in breadth, which is flooded by the sea for about a fortnight during the north-east monsoon. The soil dries up in January, and is fit for the manufacture of salt during the working season, which commences here in February or March, and terminates, as a rule, in October.

"The river Madakatta sweeps round the south and east of the swamp between lofty artificial embankments, which have been erected to protect the surrounding low ground from inundation. How long this river remains in flood I am unable to say. It was dry when I examined the pans in September; but, in any case, salt-pans protected within a properly bunded and drained enclosure need not fear fresh-water incursions.

"The swamp is at the north-end, within 200 yards of a small cutting on the coast of the sea, and is throughout from one to two feet above high tide level.

"The soil is at the surface a thin layer of loam, which rests on a stratum of clay; the latter well adapted to the formation of impermeable salt-beds. The sub-soil consists of firm, yellow sand, passing below into silt, which contains rather a plentiful supply of brine, averaging 14° Beaumé.

"Eight exploratory wells sunk in different directions to examine the soil and sub-soil, etc., cut from above downwards through the different soils, shown in the subjoined columns:—

Wells.	1 N.	2 N.E.	3 N.W.	4 W.	5 E.	6 S.E.	7 W.	8 S.
Feet. Inches.								
Soils. { Loam ...	1'	1'	6"	...	...	4'	...	1'
{ Clay ..	1½'	3'	2'	1'	3'	...	2'	2'
{ Loam sand.	3'	...	...	3'	...	...	...	2½'
Sand ...	1'	...	...	...	6"	3'	1'	...
Silt, yielding brine.	1½'	3'	2"	1½'	1½'	1½'	1'	2'
Depth of brine ...	1½'	3'	2"	1½'	1½'	1½'	1'	2"
Strength of do. ...	14° B.	10° B.	15° B.	16° B.	12° B.	17° B.	15° B.	14° B.

"It will be seen that all the cuttings showed from one to three feet of good stiff clay covering the sand and other permeable strata, except at the south-east, where there was but four inches of loam. The south-east end should not, therefore, be taken up for salt-manufacture, but it can easily be dispensed with, as the swamp is large enough without it.

"We have in this site all the natural requisites for salt-manufacture, an easily guarded and drained enclosure, covered with an impermeable clay stratum,

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department.
22nd May 1874.

and capable of being easily supplied with an abundant and strong brine. I would recommend that the whole swamp, with the exception of the portion to the south-east, be enclosed, and that the loam, down as far as the clay, be removed and employed in forming the embankment. That a canal from the backwater, provided with a proper sluice-gate, be brought round the enclosure within the embankment and cut to such a depth into the silt as to insure a fair mixture of sea and sub-soil brine, and that the ullums may be laid out in whatever way the experimental trials, which I may have the conduct of next year, will demonstrate to be the most advantageous.

"The whole of the swamp need not be brought under salt-culture at one time. It can be taken up bit by bit as the trade increases; but should it be in its entirety converted into salt-pans, as it may well have to be when the railway is opened, then the Levingepuram stores will be as extensive and important as those of Negapatam, and would as well re-pay the outlay on a short line of rail.

"There is no scarcity of labour here, or other similar drawback to interfere with the opening of new works. The people of the villages of Paliacoi and other coast villages, who were thrown out of work when their salt-pans were closed by Mr. Clarke in 1866, still retain a perfect recollection of salt-culture, and a lively desire to re-commence operations. They waited on the Deputy-Collector in a body, and expressed their willingness to remove to the neighbourhood of Tuticorin, and open out salt-pans on the swamp I have just described."

2. The salt-pans which it is proposed to construct at Sevandakulam are intended to meet the requirements of the railway. They will be of the most extensive and important kind similar to those of Madras and Negapatam, and too much care cannot be taken in their general arrangement and preparation. I would even suggest that if I were to proceed to the spot myself and superintend the work after the Ennore experiment is finished, it would be an advantage. I enclose a rough sketch of the swamp and its surroundings made from memory.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.—Rough Sketch.

In February last, Mr. Puckle proposed to open additional salt-pans at a place called Sevandakulam adjoining the new Levingepuram pans near Tuticorin. Board's Proceedings, 11th March 1874, No. 537.

3. In his application, Mr. Puckle stated that too much salt could not be produced in that locality, as it was within a mile of the railway, and the demand was rapidly increasing.

3. The salt produced at Levingepuram last year proved to be of excellent quality, and the proposed pans are so near thereto that one 1st-class Superintendent will be able to supervise both stations.

4. Mr. Puckle further stated that the demand for the pans was so great that he could dispose of the occupancy right of 3,000 pans at 4 Rupees each, and that the money so realized would cover the expenses of opening the pans.

5. Before submitting the scheme for sanction, the Board called for further information on several points, and requested Dr. Ratton to give his opinion as to the suitability of the site.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department.
22nd May 1874.

6. Replies have now been received. The Acting Collector reports that the land is Government poramboke, and that there are no claims to it; that the pans are never likely to be closed, but that to guard against such a contingency in selling the occupancy right it may be stipulated that no compensation shall be claimable, even if the pans are closed; that as the plans sanctioned for Levingepuram will be adopted for the construction of the cutcherry, etc., the Department Public Works had not been specially consulted that there was no fear of any obstacles being raised to the improved mode of manufacture being introduced; and that the area of the proposed beds is 80 acres.

7. Dr. Ratton's report is highly favourable. He inspected the site when there at Mr. Puckle's request; he found the soil to consist of a thin upper layer of loam, beneath which was a bed of impermeable clay admirably suited for salt-works, and beneath that again a layer of sand and silt, the latter well charged with concentrated brine; he found a tidal creek running near the pans, from which a good supply of sea-water could be drawn to supplement the brine in the sub-soil; he says the place is in all respects suitable, and recommends that he may be allowed to go down to superintend the laying out of the pans so soon as his experiment at Ennore is completed.

8. In submitting these papers for the consideration of Government, the Board resolve to recommend most strongly that sanction be accorded to the scheme, and that the work be put in hand without delay. The supply of salt at Tuticorin has scarcely been equal to the demand for some time past.

In September 1873, Mr. Puckle Board's Proceedings, 20th Oct. 1873, No. 2,150. wrote as follows:—

"In another two months, we shall not have a heap of last year's salt in store, and, with all our exertions, we cannot make more than 500 heaps, which is about the annual demand. The Arasadi salt-pans were largely increased last year, and I propose extending the pans at Levingepuram, but still we shall not make enough to meet the demand when the railway is opened. The Travancore Government are willing to take 150 heaps of Tinnevely salt, but we have not got any to spare."

The Board consider that nothing further need be said to demonstrate the necessity for opening more ground.

9. As regards the proposal to sell the occupancy right to the pans, the Board can see no objection to this course being followed, full stipulation being made that no compensation is to be claimed in the event of the pans being closed.

10. The Board propose, with the approval of the Government, to direct Dr. Ratton to proceed to Tuticorin, as soon as his present duties will admit, there to lay out the new pans in communication with the district authorities.

11. The Collector will be instructed to submit detailed plans and estimates of the works, and to state whether it is intended to construct a separate cutcherry at Levingepuram and Sevandakulam, or whether one will suffice for both works which might perhaps be conjointly named after the former place.

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622

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
22nd May 1874.

No. 211.

ORDER THEREON, 22nd May 1874, No. 622.

Separate Revenue, No. 17.

Salt.

In these Proceedings the Board propose to open 3,000 additional salt-pans at Sevandakulam near Tuticorin, disposing of the occupancy right at 4 Rs. each.

2. The Government approve of this proposal, subject to the stipulation mentioned in paragraph 9. In the event of the closing of the pans, the price paid, viz., 4 Rs. per pan, will, of course, be returned.
3. Dr. Ratton may act as suggested in paragraph 10.
4. The total expenditure likely to be incurred will be intimated when the information called for has been received.
5. In the meantime, the funds necessary for the execution of the preliminary operations must be found from the salt Budget grant.

(True Extract.)

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

To the Board of Revenue.
.. the Accountant-General.

W 1896/175

Additional Subordinate Government
Tuticorin, Travancore, India. — Secretary to
the Government of Travancore, Cochin
and Malabar, and the Government of
Madras, for the purpose of the
provision of salt for the
provision of salt for the
provision of salt for the

MAY.
NO. 11-211.

G. O. 22nd May 1874, No. 221.

Dated 22nd May.

1874

1874

THE BOARD OF REVENUE.

1874, 20, 22.

REVENUE.

Col. of 1874 22nd May.

70

VCT 4336/14

No. 2,150.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE, dated 20th October 1873.

Read the following letter from R. K. PUCKLE, Esq., Collector of Tinnevely, to H. E. STOKES, Esq., Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated 19th September 1873, No. 491:—

In reply to the Board's Memorandum, No. 1,290, dated 29th ultimo, I have the honour to inform you that the increased sale of salt in July arose from a rapid demand in anticipation of the closing of the principal pans when all last year's stock was disposed of.

2. The two principal pans are now closed, and we can hardly make enough salt to meet the current demand, though a new salt pan has been lately opened at Levingipuram near Tuticorin.

3. In another two months we shall not have a heap of last year's salt in the district, and with all our exertions we cannot make more than 500 heaps, which is about the annual demand.

4. The Arasadi salt pans were largely increased last year, and I propose extending the pans at Levingipuram, but still we shall not make enough to meet the demand when the railway is opened. The Travancore Government are willing to take 150 heaps of Tinnevely salt, but we have not got any to spare.

5. Dr. Ratton has just visited the pans, and I await his report as to their relative value, but the great demand will always be at Tuticorin, and we must therefore endeavour to manufacture more in that neighbourhood.

The Board will be prepared to consider any proposals that the Collector has to make for increasing the manufacture of salt at Tuticorin.

2. The Collector is requested to explain what pans are closed, and why they have been so closed.

(A true Copy and Extract.)

(Signed)

H. E. STOKES,

Acting Sub-Secretary.

To the Collector of Tinnevely.

Ed. J. Tulloch.

No. 587.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE, dated 14th March 1874.

Read the following letter from R. K. PUCKLE, Esq., Collector of Tinnevely, to J. GROSE, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Tuticorin, 14th February 1874, No. 104:—

With reference to paragraph 1 of Board's Proceedings, No. 2,150, dated 20th October 1873, I have the honour to inform you that immediately adjoining the new Levingepuram Salt-pans at Tuticorin there is, as pointed out by Dr. Ratton, a most excellent site for opening fresh pans; these may be called Sevandakolam, from the name of a small village in that locality. They may be constructed free of cost to Government by the sale of the right of occupancy of 3,000 salt-beds at 4 Rupees each, at which rate there are many applicants, and the plans and estimates sanctioned in Government Proceedings, No. 792, dated 14th May 1872, for the Levingepuram Pans can be made applicable to these.

2. We cannot make too much salt in this locality as it is within a mile of the Railway terminus, and the salt produced this year (eighty-four heaps) is of the very best quality.

3. One 1st-Class Superintendent will be able to manage both the Levingepuram and Sevandakolam Pans, and I anticipate being able to manufacture 300 heaps yearly, all of which will be carried inland by rail or by the carts which now bring cotton to the coast to carry back salt in return.

The Collector's proposal seems a good one, but before submitting it for sanction the Board wish to know whether there are no claims to the land to be satisfied; whether the sale of the occupancy rights may not prove embarrassing entailing compensation should the pans be closed; whether the estimates for Levingepuram, amounting to Rupees 11,470, have been declared by the Engineering Department to be suitable; and what is the area of the proposed salt-beds, and what steps will be taken to secure that no obstacles shall be raised to the introduction of improvements in the manufacture which may hereafter seem desirable.

2. Dr. Ratton will also be requested to inform the Board what he knows of the site and what he thinks of the Collector's proposal.

(A true Copy and Extract.)

(Signed) J. GROSE,
for Acting Sub-Secretary.

To the Collector of Tinnevely.

.. Dr. J. J. L. Ratton, on Special Duty.

Exd. A. S. Rodgers.

1873.
Board of Revenue,
MADRAS.

PROCEEDINGS, 20th OCTOBER 1873, No. 2,150.

Encl.

Received

OCTOBER

No. 2,150.

Salt.—Any proposal that Tinnevely Collector may make for increasing manufacture of salt at Tuticorin will be considered. Collector to explain what pans are closed in district, and why.

No. 1,016.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE, dated 1st March 1874.

Read again Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 14th March 1874, No. 587.

Read also the following letters:—

From W. H. COMYN, Esq., Acting Collector of Tinnevelly, to J. GROSE, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Tinnevelly, 31st March 1874, No. 183.

With reference to the Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 14th March 1874, No. 587, calling for information on certain points in connection with Mr. Puckle's proposals for increasing the manufacture of salt at Tuticorin, I have the honour to state (1) that, as the land in question is Government poramboke, there are no claims to it to be satisfied; (2) that the pans are not likely to be closed, the demand for salt, now great, being likely to increase on the opening of the railway; but in the event of their being closed the sale of the occupancy rights need not entail compensation, as the right of occupancy may be sold for so long a time only as the pans are kept open by Government; (3) that as it is proposed to construct the platform, cutcherry, etc., at Sevandakulam according to the plan and estimate sanctioned for Levingepuram, the Engineer Department were not specially consulted, but their advice will be taken; (4) that the area of the proposed beds is 80 acres; and (5) that no obstacles being likely to be raised to the introduction of improvements in manufacture, no special provisions seem necessary.

From Surgeon J. J. L. RATTON, M.D., on Special Salt Duty, to C. A. GALTON, Esq., Acting Sub-Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Ennore, 28th March 1874.

With reference to Mr. Puckle's proposal to open out new salt-pans on the Sevandakulam swamp, I have the honour to submit the following extract from my report on the Tinnevelly District, which will be shortly before the Board:—

"At the Collector's (Mr. Puckle's) request, I examined some sites for the extension of salt-works in the Tinnevelly District. I will describe here the most promising one of these, which lies immediately south of Levingepuram, close to Tuticorin.

"It is an immense swamp, the Deputy-Collector, who measured it, informs me, nearly a mile in length by half a mile in breadth, which is flooded by the sea for about a fortnight during the north-east monsoon. The soil dries up in January, and is fit for the manufacture of salt during the working season, which commences here in February or March, and terminates, as a rule, in October.

"The river Madakatta sweeps round the south and east of the swamp between lofty artificial embankments, which have been erected to protect the surrounding low ground from inundation. How long this river remains in flood I am unable to say. It was dry when I examined the pans in September; but, in any case, salt-pans protected within a properly bunded and drained enclosure need not fear fresh-water incursions.

"The swamp is at the north end, within 200 yards of a small estuary or arm of the sea, and is throughout from one to two feet above high tide level.

1874.
Board of Revenue
MADRAS.

PROCEEDINGS, 14TH MARCH 1874, No. 587.

Encl.

Received

MARCH

No. 587.

Salt-pans—new—adjoining new Levingepuram Pans at Tuticorin, in Tinnevelly District.—Collector requested to furnish further information in connection with his proposal for opening—Dr. Ratton requested to report on Collector's proposal.

"The soil is at the surface a thin layer of loam, which rests on a stratum of clay; the latter well adapted to the formation of impermeable salt-beds. The sub-soil consists of firm, yellow sand, passing below into silt, which contains rather a plentiful supply of brine, averaging 14° Beaumé.

"Eight exploratory wells sunk in different directions to examine the soil and sub-soil, etc., cut from above downwards through the different soils, shown in the subjoined columns:—

Wells.	1 N.	2 N.E.	3 N.W.	4 W.	5 E.	6 S.E.	7 W.	8 S.
Feet'. Inches'.								
Soils. {Loam ...	1'	1'	6'	...	...	4'	...	1'
Clay ..	1 1/2'	3'	2'	1'	...	...	2'	2'
Loam sand.	3'	...	...	3'	...	...	...	2 1/2'
Sand ...	1'	...	...	...	6'	3'	1'	...
Silt, yielding brine.	1 1/2'	3'	2'	1 1/2'	1 1/2'	1 1/2'	1'	2'
Depth of brine ...	1 1/2'	3'	2'	1 1/2'	1 1/2'	1 1/2'	1'	2'
Strength of do.	14° B.	10° B.	15° B.	16° B.	12° B.	17° B.	15° B.	11° B.

"It will be seen that all the cuttings showed from one to three feet of good stiff clay covering the sand and other permeable strata, except at the south-east, where there was but four inches of loam. The south-east end should not, therefore, be taken up for salt-manufacture, but it can easily be dispensed with, as the swamp is large enough without it.

"We have in this site all the natural requisites for salt-manufacture, an easily guarded and drained enclosure, covered with an impermeable clay stratum, and capable of being easily supplied with an abundant and strong brine.—I would recommend that the whole swamp, with the exception of the portion to the south-east, be enclosed, and that the loam, down as far as the clay, be removed and employed in forming the embankment. That a canal from the backwater, provided with a proper sluice-gate, be brought round the enclosure within the embankment and cut to such a depth into the silt as to insure a fair mixture of sea and sub-soil brine, and that the ullums may be laid out in whatever way the experimental trials, which I may have the conduct of next year, will demonstrate to be the most advantageous.

"The whole of the swamp need not be brought under salt-culture at one time. It can be taken up bit by bit as the trade increases; but should it be in its entirety converted into salt-pans, as it may well have to be when the railway is opened, then the Levingepuram stores will be as extensive and important as those of Negapatam, and would as well re-pay the outlay on a short line of rail.

"There is no scarcity of labour here, or other similar drawback to interfere with the opening of new works. The people of the villages of Paliacoil and other coast villages, who were thrown out of work when their salt-pans were closed by Mr. Clarke in 1866, still retain a perfect recollection of salt-culture, and a lively desire to re-commence operations. They waited on the Deputy-Collector in a body, and expressed their willingness to remove to the neighbourhood of Tuticorin, and open out salt-pans on the swamp I have just described."

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2. The salt-pans which it is proposed to construct at Sevandakulam are intended to meet the requirements of the railway. They will be of the most extensive and important kind similar to those of Madras and Negapatam, and too much care cannot be taken in their general arrangement and preparation. I would even suggest that if I were to proceed to the spot myself and superintend the work after the Ennore experiment is finished, it would be an advantage. I enclose a rough sketch of the swamp and its surroundings made from memory.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.—Rough Sketch.

In February last, Mr. Puckle proposed to open additional salt-pans at a place called Sevandakulam adjoining the new Board's Proceedings, 14th March 1874, No. 587. Levingepuram pans near Tuticorin.

2. In his application, Mr. Puckle stated that too much salt could not be produced in that locality, as it was within a mile of the railway, and the demand was rapidly increasing.

3. The salt produced at Levingepuram last year proved to be of excellent quality, and the proposed pans are so near thereto that one 1st-class Superintendent will be able to supervise both stations.

4. Mr. Puckle further stated that the demand for the pans was so great that he could dispose of the occupancy right of 3,000 pans at 4 Rupees each, and that the money so realized would cover the expenses of opening the pans.

5. Before submitting the scheme for sanction, the Board called for further information on several points, and requested Dr. Ratton to give his opinion as to the suitability of the site.

6. Replies have now been received. The Acting Collector reports that the land is Government poramboke, and that there are no claims to it; that the pans are never likely to be closed, but that to guard against such a contingency in selling the occupancy right it may be stipulated that no compensation shall be claimable, even if the pans are closed; that as the plans sanctioned for Levingepuram will be adopted for the construction of the cutcherry, etc., the Department Public Works had not been specially consulted that there was no fear of any obstacles being raised to the improved mode of manufacture being introduced; and that the area of the proposed beds is 80 acres.

7. Dr. Ratton's report is highly favourable. He inspected the site when there at Mr. Puckle's request; he found the soil to consist of a thin upper layer of loam, beneath which was a bed of impermeable clay admirably suited for salt-works, and beneath that again a layer of sand and silt, the latter well charged with concentrated brine; he found a tidal creek running near the pans, from which a good supply of sea-water could be drawn to supplement the brine in the sub-soil; he says the place is in all respects suitable, and recommends that he may be allowed to go down to superintend the laying out of the pans so soon as his experiment at Ennore is completed.

8. In submitting these papers for the consideration of Government, the Board resolve to recommend most strongly that sanction be accorded to the scheme, and that the work be put in hand without delay. The supply of salt at Tuticorin has scarcely been equal to the demand for some time past.

Board's Proceedings, 20th Oct. 1873, No. 2,150. In September 1873, Mr. Puckle wrote as follows:—

"In another two months, we shall not have a heap of last year's salt in store, and, with all our exertions, we cannot make more than 500 heaps, which is about the annual demand. The Arasadi salt-pans were largely increased last year, and I propose extending the pans at Lovingepuram, but still we shall not make enough to meet the demand when the railway is opened. The Travancore Government are willing to take 150 heaps of Tinnevely salt, but we have not got any to spare."

The Board consider that nothing further need be said to demonstrate the necessity for opening more ground.

9. As regards the proposal to sell the occupancy right to the pans, the Board can see no objection to this course being followed, full stipulation being made that no compensation is to be claimed in the event of the pans being closed.

10. The Board propose, with the approval of the Government, to direct Dr. Ratton to proceed to Tuticorin, as soon as his present duties will admit, there to lay out the new pans in communication with the district authorities.

11. The Collector will be instructed to submit detailed plans and estimates of the works, and to state whether it is intended to construct a separate cutcherry at Levingepuram and Sevandakulam, or whether one will suffice for both works which might perhaps be conjointly named after the former place.

(True Copies and Extract.)

Calahan
Acting Sub-Secretary.

To the Acting Secretary to Government, Revenue Department,
with one Sketch and Board's Proc., 20th October 1873, No. 2,150.

and 14th March 1874, No. 587.

.. the Collector of Tinnevely.

Dr. J. J. L. Ratten, M.D., on Special Duty.

Copy to the Inspector-General of Police.

Exd. F. R. Dantleman.

Tal-pant, Additional.—at Serradakhnam adjoining new Levingapuram pass near Tuticorin in Tinnevely District.—Collector's proposal to open—, recommended for sanction of Government, Dr. Hutton proposed to be deputed to superintend laying out of the pass. Collector to submit detailed plans and estimates of works required, and to report whether separate cutcherries are proposed at Serradakhnam and Levingapuram.

31 A Y.
No. 1,016

PROCEEDINGS, 1ST MAY 1874, No. 1,016.

Board of Revenue,
MADRAS.

Dec. 1874. *Repubblica*

9871.012

Encl. 3

^rSee 1425

S.D. 4/26/22 - 22 May/74 -

Received of Mary Smith

No. 622.

Revenue Department.

PROCEEDINGS of the MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Under date the 22nd May 1874.

READ the following *Proceedings of the*
Board of Revenue.

Recommending Colli-
proposal to open additional
Salt-pans at Srivandavulam
adjoining new Seringepuram
pans near Tuticorin in Tinnevely
District—

H. E. 1st May 1894 A. 100

See these Branches
the Board propose to offer
3000 additional full time
at Granddalem, since
Tulacum, disposing of the
excess capacity right at
each.

2. The Government of
France of this Republic
subject to the signature
mentioned in paragraph
9. (11)

3. Dr. Rotton may act
as suggested in paragraph
10.

4. The total expendi-
ture likely to be incurred
will be intimated when
the information called
for has been received.

5. In the meantime
the funds necessary for
the execution of the pre-
liminary operations must
be found from the Salt
Budget grant

QWC

14 To the Rev Mr 28 May 74
6 - Recd Genl -

19
622

211-214.

(20)

Reptile

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and