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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

Revenue DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.
B.P. No.

261.

Press
Mis.

Dated

18-2-1875 196

Not to be folded or roughly handled

889

No. 119. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 14th January 1875, No. 68:—

Read again Board's Proceedings, dated 13th October 1874, No. 2,981.

Read also the following letter from R. DAVIDSON, Esq., Acting Collector of Ganjam, to J. GROSE, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Itchapore, 28th November 1874, No. 2,541:—

IN my letter of the 14th September last, No. 1,856, I had the honor to submit, for the consideration of the Board, an inexpensive experimental scheme for supplementing the inadequate supply of Womeravilly Salt by opening pans at Mafuzbunder.

2. The Board in their Proceedings, dated the 13th October 1874, No. 2,981, questioned the advisability of the proposed measure, and suggested that "the money requisite for establishing manufacture at Mafuzbunder, would be much better laid out in improving the manufacture at Womeravilly," and added "that it will be better to do all that is possible to improve it and to extend the manufacture at that station (Womeravilly) than to open new pans."

3. I am entirely of the Board's opinion, and the only reasons I had for recommending a different course were, that from the careful enquiries which I made, I was led to believe that although the Womeravilly pans were capable of yielding a large outturn of salt of good quality if properly supplied with brine, the cost of such requirements would be very great, the area of pans could not be extended, and the present supply of salt is barely equal to the demand without leaving any stock in hand at the commencement of the manufacturing season.

4. The Board are aware of the circumstances which prevented my personally visiting the pans before I submitted my proposition, I have availed myself of the earliest opportunity of doing so, in company with Messrs. Grahame, Leggatt, and Dhurmarow, and as it was in a great measure owing to the unfavorable nature of Mr. Grahame's report that the Board rejected my proposal, and as Mr. Grahame's present enclosed report which was written after a much more careful inspection of the spot than on the previous occasion, entirely alters the complexion of affairs, I venture to hope that I may be excused for reverting to the subject, which I trust may receive the Board's re-consideration.

5. The points which received our special attention were—

- (1.) The possibility of supplying the existing pans, at Womeravilly with a sufficiency of brine, and of improving the quality of the salt.
- (2.) Of extending the area of pans.
- (3.) Of manufacturing good salt at Mafuzbunder at a maximum return and minimum cost.
- (4.) The formation of a road from Chicacole to Mafuzbunder.

In regard to the 1st point, Mr. Leggatt, the Range Officer, informed me that he has estimated the cost of obtaining a sufficient supply of brine direct from the sea for the Womeravilly pans by improving the existing communication at Rupces 38,000. The present reliable, though insufficient, supply is obtained by a channel, which at low water drains part of Calingapatam into the Vamsadara

river, and at high tide receives its supply of brine for the pans. The other channel communicating direct with the sea, merely supplements the above, and if thoroughly utilized, will entail an outlay of Rupees 38,000.

Should the Board think proper to incur this expenditure, there will be no immediate occasion to open up pans at Mafuzbunder, as in all probability, the annual return of salt from the Womeravilly pans would, as mentioned by the Deputy-Collector, amount to about 3,00,000 maunds.

The pans are however incapable of extension for the reasons given by Mr. Grahame in the enclosed letter. Messrs. Grahame, Leggatt, Dhurmarow, and myself, are quite agreed on that the 2nd point under consideration.

For the reasons given in Mr. Grahame's letter, there can be no doubt I think that, as shown in the Salt Deputy-Collector's letter, dated 22nd July last, No. 210, and embodied in the Board's Proceedings now under advertence, a supply of from 30,000 to 40,000 maunds of good quality salt could be obtained from the Mafuzbunder pans this manufacturing season, at a most moderate outlay, if sanction to commence the preparation of the pans be accorded at an early date, and if convenient, by telegram.

Lastly, as will be seen from Mr. Grahame's letter, the difficulties which he apprehended of constructing a road from Chicacole to Mafuzbunder are more imaginary than real. Mr. Leggatt, has selected a high and dry line, and he stated that he would undertake to throw pukka bridges over the two nullahs (which would be available for the proposed Local Fund Road) and construct an improved bandy track available for traffic between Chicacole and the pans before the next manufacturing season, for the sum of two thousand Rupees (Rupees 2,000).

The road will eventually be converted into a Local Fund Road at a cost of from Rupees 6,000 to Rupees 8,000 in all, and it will be for the Board to consider what share of its construction and up-keep should be debited to Salt. In my letter to the Board, dated 14th ultimo No. 2,146, I indicated a source from which a saved sum of Rupees 1,757 could be made available at once for the construction of the proposed road.

When I visited the Womeravilly platforms on the 19th and 20th instant, there were only 1,70,000 maunds of salt in store, there were between five and six hundred bandies being loaded with salt, and Rupees 8,000 had been paid in for salt on the 18th instant.

It seems probable therefore, that the entire stock will be consumed by the time next season supply is ready, and should such be the case, it will be no easy matter to secure a year or eight months' stock in hand. It is my intention to work the Womeravilly pans to their utmost extent next season, but should the weather be inauspicious or the precarious supply of brine fail, the want of a supplemental stock at Mafuzbunder may, I fear, be severely felt.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

From W. F. GRAHAME Esq., Acting Principal Assistant Collector, to R. DAVIDSON, Esq., Acting Collector of Ganjam District, dated Nowpada, 24th November 1874, No. 350.

In answer to your footnote No. 2,237, dated 22nd October 1874, on copy of the Board of Revenue's Proceedings, dated 13th October 1874, on the subject of opening a salt gully at Mafuz-

but, I have the honor to inform you that since receipt of your letter, I have visited Mafuzbunder twice and the Womeravilly pans once. After I visited in company with Mr. Leggatt, the Range Officer, and yourself, the former I visited once with Mr. Leggatt, and once with you and Mr. Leggatt.

In my opinion is that at Womeravilly it is impossible to extend the area of the salt pans. To the east of the pans is a broad tract of Sea beach; to the north is high ground, too high, Mr. Leggatt says, to be supplied with brine except at great expense, and unfit in character to be turned into salt pans even if it lay low enough to be supplied with water; to the south runs a tract of sand drifts between which and the pans extends a fresh water swamp which also runs to the west of the pans. This swamp is low enough for pans, but receives the drainage of a large tract of country, and would I think be difficult to drain. The soil at the bottom of the swamp is not at all adapted for salt pans, while the swamp itself I wanted to keep sand from drifting into the pans and on to the platforms and spoiling the salt. To show how impossible is it to extend the area of the Womeravilly salt pans, I may state that round the immediate edge of the pans, runs a broad strip of land which looks fit for pans, but which four or five years ago was made into pans and worked for a season or two with no result. The Deputy-Collector said that no salt whatever was produced on it and it was therefore abandoned. It would therefore be useless waste of money to try and extend the present area of the pans.

With regard to making a Salt Station at Mafuzbunder, the only points on which I had doubts were the getting a proper supply of brine and the inaccessibility of the place. On both points my doubts have been removed. The little channel which runs across the plain on which the Deputy-Collector proposed to make the pans, had sunk from about 5 feet in depth to 8 inches, and I have ascertained that in a short time it will receive no more fresh water, and that the only water in it will be sea water which will flow in and out with the tide until the rains in June. I find that I was mistaken in thinking that the channel runs into the Nangulia river. When I first visited the place, it was so swampy (in September) that I could not go within three-quarter mile of the mouth, and on examining the place with binoculars, it seemed to run into the river, but it really runs into the sea at the place where the sea receives the river and where there is always salt water. Therefore, after the fresh water ceases to flow, which I am told will be early next month, the reservoir will receive a supply of pure sea water by means of this channel.

4. As regards accessibility; the road by which I first went to Mafuzbunder was a trace made by Mr. Lever, the late Range Officer, part of which unnecessarily ran through some wet cultivation. Mr. Leggatt has made a new trace on which one of the nullahs I mentioned disappears altogether and another becomes a rather wide ditch, and the greater portion of the road is on a hard track on which a road can be easily made. Two bridges only will be necessary, of which one is a small one. Mr. Leggatt estimates that a road can be made from Chicacole to Mafuzbunder for Rupees 2,000, including the two bridges which will suffice for the metalled road which the Local Fund Board of this circle proposes to make on his trace. I should say this is quite possible, though not on the trace made by Mr. Lever.

5. As the only two seeming difficulties to the Mafuzbunder pans have thus disappeared, and as the Board of Revenue's suggestion as to the extension of the Womeravilly pans cannot possibly be carried into effect, I trust that you will again lay the matter before the Board, and that they will this time see fit to sanction the proposal to open a Salt Station at Mafuzbunder where the site is so admirably adapted for the purposes of salt manufacture. If the Board of Revenue sanction these pans, they could be prepared for manufacture next month as soon as the paddy is reaped, and 30,000 to 40,000 maunds of salt made in this coming season. It is of great importance to have a supplemental supply to Womeravilly. Heavy sales are now going on at Womeravilly. The average daily sales for the last month have been over 1,400 and two days lately 3,000 and 4,000 maunds were sold. There are 1,70,000 maunds in store, and at the average daily rate of over 1,400 maunds, we have less than four months' supply in hand, while the supply will be much less than four months supply if the sales rise much over the present average. At present, over 500 bandies a day come to Womeravilly for salt, and unless the coming season be

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
18th February 1875.

far more favorable than we have any right to expect. We shall begin the next fiscal year with considerably more than 12 months' store in hand.

(True Copy.)

(Signed

R. DAVIDSON.

Acting Collector.

The foregoing papers relate to a proposal made by the Collector of Ganjam to open a new Salt station at Mafuzbunder, a place near the mouth of the Nangulia river, and within four miles of the town of Chicacole. The object of the proposal is to supplement the deficient supply at Womeravilly, which as stated cannot otherwise be done.

2. When the scheme was first submitted, the Board questioned the advisability of the measure, the return appearing very uncertain and the brine supply doubtful; while the making a road from Chicacole without which the pans would be useless, would be difficult and expensive. They therefore thought that the money required would be better spent in improving the manufacture at Womeravilly.

3. The Collector's letter above recorded is in reply. He states that he has himself examined the Womeravilly pans and the new site in company with the Principal Assistant, the Range Officer, and the Deputy-Collector, and is satisfied that the extension of the area at Womeravilly is impossible, and the improvement of the brine supply would cost more than the new station. The Range Officer has made a new trace for a road from Chicacole which can be made passable during the current season for Rupees 2,000, and would eventually be completed partly at least from Local Funds, at a cost of from Rupees 6,000 to Rupees 8,000. Mr. Grahame has further withdrawn completely the adverse opinion on which the Board's former Proceedings were principally based.

4. In these circumstances, the Board resolve to request the early sanction of Government for the experiment. The Deputy-Collector proposes to take up this season 20 acres of waste out of the 70 acres comprised in the site, and estimates the cost of excavating supply channels at Rupees 400; and states that a guard of ten Constables besides a small establishment required can be spared for the time from the sanctioned establishments. He says nothing as to the provision of platforms for the storage of the salt, but the Board see no reason to doubt that the cost of such works as may be necessary can be met from General Savings on the current year's grant for Petty Construction and Repairs. The Deputy-Collector expected to make 30,000 maunds this season.

5. As to the road it would be premature to do more than make it practicable for carts in the dry weather until the suitability of the site for salt manufacture has been demonstrated by experience, and the permanency of the station decided on. Should the Government sanction the experiment, the Board will be prepared to allot for this purpose the sum of Rupees 1,757, referred to in Proceedings, 1st December 1874, No. 3,473, to be expended by the Deputy-Collector with the advice and assistance of the Public Works Department Officers, the transfer of funds from the Salt grant to the Public Works Department being inadmissible under existing orders. Estimates for what work is immediately necessary should be submitted at once if the scheme is sanctioned; as the Board presume that the estimate for Rupees 8,977 submitted with the Collector's letter, No. 2,145, dated 14th October 1874, refers to the line now given up.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
18th February 1875.

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(True Copies and Extract.)

(Signed)

H. E. STOKES,

Acting Sub-Secretary.

No. 229. Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 3rd February 1875, No. 243.
Read the following letter from G. R. LEGGATT, Esq., C.E., Executive Engineer, in
charge of Chicacole Range, to R. DAVIDSON, Esq., Acting Collector of
Ganjam, dated Chicacole, 9th December 1874, No. 269.

As requested by you, I have the honor to submit a statement showing the probable cost of bridging the four principal streams that intersect the proposed new line of road between Pata Chicacoli and Mafuzbunder. I am of opinion that a good improved bandy-track could be, without difficulty, opened to Mafuzbunder, and would not cost more than Rupees 1,500 if judiciously laid out.

2. The amount of estimate recently submitted to the District Engineer for a metalled road to Mafzabunder was Rupees 8,977; this sum included the four bridges mentioned in accompanying statement as well as eleven culverts, which latter are estimated at Rupees 1,095.

Memorandum of large masonry Works proposed to be constructed on Mafuzbunder Road.

				RS.
No. 1,	Tunnel of 2 vents	of 9 feet span each		74
" 2,	" of 2 "	of 6 "		660
" 3,	" of 2 "	of 10 "		755
" 4,	" of 1 "	of 10 "		460
Total.				2,649

(Signed)

G. R. LEGGATT, E.C.,

Executive Engineer.

No. 2,695.

SUBMITTED to the Board of Revenue in continuation of this Office letter, dated 28th November 1874, No. 2,541.

KURCHOLLY,
17th December 1874.

(Signed)

R. DAVIDSON,

Acting Collector.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,

18th February 1875.

SUBMITTED to Government in continuation of Board's Proceedings, dated 14th January 1875, No. 18.

2. From this letter, it would seem that the estimate for Rupees 8,977 referred to in the last paragraph of the Proceedings above quoted, and which has been returned to the Collector, referred to the line proposed by the Range Officer.

(A true Copy and Extract.)

(Signed) H. E. STOKES,
Acting Secretary

No. 221.

ORDER THEREON 18th February 1875, No. 261.

Separate Revenue, No. 18.
Salt.

The proposal of the Board of Revenue to open a new salt station at Mafuzbunder as an experiment is sanctioned.

(True Extract.)

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

To the Revenue Department,

Exd. F. R. Bantleman.

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Read again Board's Proceedings, dated 13th October 1874, No. 2,981.

In regard to the 1st point, Mr. Leggatt, the Range Officer, informed me that he has estimated the cost of obtaining a sufficient supply of brine direct from the sea for the Womeravilly pans by improving the existing communication at Rupees 38,000. The present channel, though insufficient, is obtained by a channel, which at low water drains part of Calingapatam into the Vamsadara river, and at high tide, receives its supply of brine for the pans. The other channel communicating direct with the sea, merely supplements the above, and to thoroughly utilize it, will entail an outlay of Rupees 38,000.

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The pans are however incapable of extension for the reasons given by Mr. Grahame in the enclosed letter. Messrs. Grahame, Leggatt, Dhurmarow, and myself, are quite agreed on that the 2nd point under consideration.

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It seems probable therefore, that the entire stock will be consumed by the time next season supply is ready, and should such be the case, it will be no easy matter to secure a year or eight months' stock in hand. It is my intention to work the Womeravilly pans to their utmost extent next season, but should the weather be inauspicious or the precarious supply of brine fail, the want of a supplemental stock at Mafuzbunder may, I fear, be severely felt.

ENCLOSURE No. 1

From F. GRAHAME, Esq., Acting Principal Assistant Collector to R. DAVIDSON, Esq., Acting Collector of Ganjam District, dated Nowpada, 14th November 1874, No. 350.

In answer to your footnote No. 2,237, dated 2nd October 1874, copy of the Board of Revenue's Proceedings, dated 13th October 1874, on the subject of opening a salt gully at Mafuzbunder, I have the honor to inform you that since the receipt of your letter, I have visited Mafuzbunder twice and the Womeravilly pans once. The latter I visited in company with Mr. Leggatt, the Range Officer, and yourself, the former I visited once with Mr. Leggatt, and once with you and Mr. Leggatt.

2. My opinion is that at Womeravilly it is impossible to extend the area of the salt pans. To the east of the pans is a broad tract of Sea beach; to the north is high ground, too high, Mr. Leggatt says, to be supplied with brine except at great expense, and unfit in character to be turned into salt pans even if it lay low enough to be supplied with water; to the south runs a tract of sand drifts between which and the pans extends a fresh water swamp which also runs to the west of the pans. This swamp is low enough for pans, but receives the drainage of a large tract of country, and would I think be difficult to drain. The soil at the bottom of the swamp is not at all adapted for salt pans, while the swamp itself is wanted to keep sand from drifting into the pans and on to the platforms and spoiling the salt. To show how impossible is it to extend the area of the Womeravilly salt pans, I may state that round the immediate edge of the pans, runs a broad strip of land which looks fit for pans, but which four or five years ago was made into pans and worked for a season or two with no result. The Deputy-Collector said that no salt whatever was produced on it and it was therefore abandoned. It would therefore be useless waste of money to try and extend the present area of the pans.

3. With regard to making a Salt Station at Mafuzbunder, the only points on which I had doubts were the getting a proper supply of brine and the inaccessibility of the place. On both points my doubts have been removed. The little channel which runs across the plain on which the Salt Deputy-Collector proposed to make the pans, had sunk from about 5 feet in depth to 18 inches, and I have ascertained that in a short time it will receive no more fresh water, and that the only water in it will be sea water which will flow in and out with the tide until the rains in June. I find that I was mistaken in thinking that the channel runs into the Nangulia river. When I first visited the place, it was so swampy (in September) that I could not go within three-quarter mile of the mouth, and on examining the place with binoculars, it seemed to run into the river, but it really runs into the sea at the place where the sea receives the river and where there is always salt water. Therefore, after the fresh water ceases to flow, which I am told will be early next month, the reservoir will receive a supply of pure sea water by means of this channel.

4. As regards accessibility; the road by which I first went to Mafuzbunder was a trace made by Mr. Lever, the late Range Officer, part of which unnecessarily ran through some waste cultivation. Mr. Leggatt has made a new trace on which one of the nullahs I mentioned disappeared altogether and another becomes a rather wide ditch, and the greater portion of the road is on a hard track on which a road can be easily made. Two bridges only will be necessary, of which one is a small one. Mr. Leggatt estimates that a road can be made from Chicacole to Mafuzbunder for Rupees 2,000, including the two bridges which will suffice for the metalled road which the Local Fund Board of this circle proposes to make on his trace. I should say this is quite possible, though not on the trace made by Mr. Lever.

5. As the only two seeming difficulties to the Mafuzbunder pans have thus disappeared, and as the Board of Revenue's suggestion as to the extension of the Womeravilly pans cannot possibly be carried into effect, I trust that you will again lay the matter before the Board, and that they will this time see fit to sanction the proposal to open a Salt Station at Mafuzbunder where the site is so admirably adapted for the purposes of salt manufacture. If the Board of Revenue sanction these pans, they could be prepared for manufacture next month as soon as the paddy is

ed, and 22 to 40,000 maunds of salt made in this coming season. It is of great importance to have a supplemental supply to Womeravilly. Heavy sales are now going on at Womeravilly. The average daily sales for the last month have been over 1,400, and on two days lately 3,000 and 4,000 maunds were sold. There are 1,70,000 maunds in store, and at the average daily rate of over 1,400 maunds we have less than four months' supply in hand, while the supply will be much less than four months' supply if the sales rise much over the present average. At present, over 500 bandies a day come to Womeravilly for salt, and unless the coming season be far more favorable than we have any right to expect, we shall begin the next fasli with considerably less than 18 months' store in hand.

(True Copy.)

(Signed) R. DAVIDSON,
Acting Collector.

The foregoing papers relate to a proposal made by the Collector of Ganjam to open a new Salt station at Mafuzbunder, a place near the mouth of the Nangulia river, and within four miles of the town of Chicacole. The object of the proposal is to supplement the deficient supply at Womeravilly, which it is stated cannot otherwise be done.

2. When the scheme was first submitted, the Board questioned the advisability of the measure, the return appearing very uncertain and the brine supply doubtful; while the making a road from Chicacole without which the pans would be useless, would be difficult and expensive. They therefore thought that the money required would be better spent in improving the manufacture at Womeravilly.

3. The Collector's letter above recorded is in reply. He states that he has himself examined the Womeravilly pans and the new site in company with the Principal Assistant, the Range Officer, and the Deputy-Collector, and is satisfied that the extension of the area at Womeravilly is impossible, and the improvement of the brine supply would cost more than the new station. The Range Officer has made a new trace for a road from Chicacole which can be made passable during the current season for Rupees 2,000, and would eventually be completed, partly at least from Local Funds, at a cost of from Rupees 6,000 to Rupees 8,000. Mr. Grahame has further withdrawn completely the adverse opinion on which the Board's former proceedings were principally based.

4. In these circumstances, the Board resolve to request the early sanction of Government for the experiment. The Deputy-Collector proposes to take up this season 20 acres of waste out of the 70 acres comprised in the site, and estimates the cost of excavating supply channels at Rupees 400; and states that a guard of ten Constables besides a small establishment required can be spared for the time from the sanctioned establishments. He says nothing as to the provision of platforms for the storage of the salt, but the Board see no reason to doubt that the cost of such works as may be necessary can be met from General Savings on the current year's grant for Petty Construction and Repairs. The Deputy-Collector expected to make 30,000 maunds this season.

5. As to the road it would be premature to do more than make it practicable for carts in the dry weather until the suitability of the site for salt manufacture has been demonstrated by experience, and the permanency of the

station decided on. Should the Government sanction the proposal, the Board will be prepared to allot for this purpose the sum of Rupees 1,757, referred to in Proceedings, 1st December 1874, No. 3,455, to be expended by the Deputy-Collector with the advice and assistance of the Public Works Department Officers, the transfer of funds from the Salt grant to the Public Works Department being inadmissible under existing orders. Estimates for what work is immediately necessary should be submitted at once if the scheme is sanctioned; as the Board presume that the estimate for Rupees 8,977 submitted with the Collector's letter, No. 2,145, dated 14th October 1874, refers to the line now given up.

(True Copies and Extract.

H. Stobbs
Acting Sub-Secretary.

To the Acting Secretary to Government, Revenue Department,
with Board's Proceedings, dated 13th October 1874, No. 2,981.

.. the Collector of Ganjam.

Copy to the Collector of Vizagapatam.
.. to the Inspector-General of Police.

Edw. G. A. Turtan.

average daily
900 pounds

Salt Station, Experimental—at Mafuzbunder near the mouth of Nangulia river and within four miles of Chicacole, in Ganjam District.—Proposal to open — to supplement the deficient supply at Womeravilly, submitted for early sanction of Government, with remarks.—Should the experiment be sanctioned, Board will allot for this purpose Rupees 1,757 to be expended by Deputy-Collector with advice and assistance of Officers of Public Works Department.

No. 68.

JANUARY.

Received 22^d
20th Jan 1875

Proceedings, 14th January 1875, No. 68.
20th Jan 1875
Encl.

MADRAS.

BOARD OF REVENUE.

Revenue 1875. No. 68.

No. 230

No. 2,331

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE, dated 13th October 1874.
Read the following letter from R. DAVIDSON, Esq., Acting Collector of Ganjam, to J. GROSE, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Chettipore, 14th September 1874, No. 1,856:—

I HAVE the honor to report on the two subjects referred to in the postscript to my letter of 7th July last, S. No. 321, viz., 1st, the opening of a new salt gully at Mafuzbunder (near Chicacole), and 2nd, the construction of a road from the other side of the Nangulia (Chicacole) River to Ramabhadrapore in the Vizagapatam District.

You will gather from my Salt Deputy-Collector's letter, dated 22nd July 1874, No. 210 (copy of which is enclosed), the circumstances which have induced him to propose the first measure, the local facilities which the place possesses for supplementing the inadequate supply of Womeravilly salt, and the suggestion which he has offered for the inexpensive development of his promising experimental scheme.

I also enclose copy of the Acting Principal Assistant Collector's letter in support of the measure.

I have just had a consultation with the Salt Deputy-Collector, who is most anxious to commence the preparatory operations early in November next. The scheme has my entire approval, as I think there is every probability of its turning out a success, and the risk is very inconsiderable.

I have therefore the honor to request that the Board will be pleased to obtain the sanction of Government for the proposed measure in time to admit of operations being commenced early in November next, so that a crop of salt may be obtained in the ensuing manufacturing season.

As the gully will be comparatively of little advantage without a good road communication between it and Chicacole, I would urge the desirability of Government being moved to allot funds at once for the construction of a road from Chicacole to the gully, a distance of between four and five miles.

If Government see fit to do so, the cost may at present be defrayed out of Imperial Funds, and a moiety may eventually be recovered from the Chicacole Local Fund Board, agreeably to the suggestion made by the Acting Principal Assistant Collector in the latter part of paragraph 3 of his letter.

I have requested the District Engineer to submit a plan and estimate for the construction of the road in question, and I will forward them as soon as possible.

Meanwhile, to provide against the contingency of the Womeravilly salt supply falling short of our requirements, in consequence of the increased demand which it is anticipated will spring up, under the facilities which it is believed the passing of Act X. of 1874 was intended to afford, I would ask, as a special measure, that an allotment of Rs. 5,000 be at once made for the construction of the road.

I think also it might be well to leave the execution of this work in the hands of the Salt Deputy-Collector, who will be on the spot superintending the preparation of the pans, and to whose interest it will be to push on the work with the utmost vigor.

In regard to the other point, viz., the construction of a road from the other side of the Nangulia River to Ramabhadrapore, I enclose copy of a letter from the Salt Deputy-Collector, dated 29th July 1873, No. 159, which gives full information on the subject.

The importance of this road was pointed out to the Vizagapatam Local Fund Board who, in reply, said that "the Board have under their consideration the advisability of a road to open out that part of the country, but they have not yet determined the exact line which in the interests of this district the road should take."

As the interests of this district will be materially benefited by the opening out of this road, it may not be out of place for me to express a hope that the subject may receive the early consideration of the Board of Revenue.

14. If the Vizagapatam Local Fund Board are not in a position to undertake the measure, perhaps a portion of the Imperial Funds might, with advantage, be devoted to it, in consideration of the extra salt revenue that is likely to be derived thereby.

15. I take the same opportunity of requesting the Board's attention to the suggestion made by the Salt Deputy-Collector in Clause 3, paragraph 2 of his letter, No. 199, regarding the exemption of salt traders from the payment of tolls.

16. No doubt an appreciable relief would be conferred on salt traders were Government to compound with the Municipal Boards concerned for the payment of a fixed annual sum payable to the salt revenue, in lieu of the tolls at present collected from the individual salt traders many of whom pay land-cess.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

From R. DURMAROW, Deputy-Collector in charge of Salt Department, to R. DAVIDSON Esq., Acting Collector of Ganjam, dated Calingapatam, 22nd July 1874, No. 210.

With reference to paragraph 2 of my reply No. 199, dated the 6th instant, to the Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, inquiring whether the stock in the gullies will meet the probable demand which is likely to spring up, I have the honor to inform you that as far as Home consumption is concerned, Womeravilly salt is preferred to that produced at Nowpada, of this district, and at Cuppili, Conada, and Bimlipatam of Vizagapatam. The Womeravilly gully, therefore, supplies not only the Chicacole Taluq and a portion of the Parlakimidy Estate, but also the Zemindaries of Jeypore, Salur, Makiva, Panchipenta, Merangi, Curapam, Palconda, Parvatipore, Bobbili, and Vizianagaram of Vizagapatam District. The outturn and sales at

Faslies	Outturn.	Sales.
1275	333,876	183,485
1276	143,473	185,580
1277	164,475	248,592
1278	352,228	138,698
1279	140,785	175,956
1280	52,165	205,744
1281	191,059	128,980
1282	271,485	200,412

Womeravilly during the last eight faslies are as per margin. In Faslies 1275, 1278 and 1281, sales had to be stopped for four, one, and four months, respectively, for want of stock. Last year's stock was upwards of 270,000 mds.

It was sold off by the end of April this year.

About 33,000 maunds of the new crop have since been sold. The remaining stock, which is about 200,000 maunds, will be taken away by traders before March next. The pans are extensive enough to produce 300,000 maunds, but the supply of brine is precarious, and it is with much difficulty that we get the average yield, unless the season is exceptionally favorable to the manufacture of salt. The mouth of the salt creek feeding the gully channels silts up almost immediately after it is cleared. The outturn in ordinary seasons is not therefore equal to twelve months' consumption, much less in seasons adverse to salt culture. To guard against the vicissitudes of season, I propose to open a gully at Mafuzbunder, about twelve miles from Womeravilly, whose stock added to the crop of the new gully will, I expect, be equal to eighteen months' consumption as laid down in the Board's Standing Circular No. 64 of 1864. It may be said that Mafuzbunder is only ten miles from Cuppili where there is a gully, but that is a very small one, and the outturn does not meet the demand. There were no sales here for about twenty-nine months during the last eight years.

2. I have been to Mafuzbunder lately, and find there is a block of 70 Acres* of Jerayati land by the mouth of the Nangulia, which can be converted into seventy sets of pans capable of yielding 80,000 maunds in the aggregate. The land is bounded by the Nangulia on the south, and a salt creek which branches off from the river on the east. There will, therefore, be no difficulty in supplying the land with brine, which seems well-suited to salt culture. I do not, however, propose to take up more than 20 Acres† this year. Only one or two supply channels are required. The cost of excavating them, and of purchasing a few materials, will not exceed

* Partly occupied.

† Waste unoccupied.

400 Rupees, which can be met from savings under Salt, Petty Construction and Repairs. About the beginning of February, a gang of ten men will be required, who may, as a temporary measure, be taken from those sanctioned for the existing gullies. Similarly, an Assistant Superintendent, and a clerk with a few peons and weighers, may be spared. The Kudivaram which I propose to be fixed at Rupees 9-6-0 a garce, the same as at Womeravilly, may be paid out of the district grant under this head. If the proposal be sanctioned, and the manufacturing operations commenced about the beginning of November I expect the pans will produce about 30,000 maunds. If the experiment succeed, I shall apply for permission to take up the remaining land and convert it into pans, sending in at the same time estimates for the necessary work and proposals for such establishment as might be required for the gully. I understand a road has been proposed to Mafuzbunder from Chicacole, and it is likely to be constructed at a distant period when the traffic of the new gully will in no small degree be benefited by it.

From W. F. GRAHAME, Esq., Acting Principal Assistant Collector, to R. DAVIDSON, Esq., Acting Collector of Ganjam, dated Chicacole, 5th September 1874, No. 241.

I HAVE the honor to reply to your foot-note of 30th July, No. 441, on the Salt Deputy-Collector's proposal to open a salt gully at Mafuzbunder, and to your reminder of 22nd August, No. 603.

2. I have personally inspected the locality indicated by the Salt Deputy-Collector, and am of opinion that with one important point on which he must be a much better judge than I can be, the site seemed to me well adapted for a small salt gully. The one exception regards a probable supply of brine. A small channel flows across the place on which the pans would be made, and runs into the sea close to the mouth of the Nangulia, the river which flows past Chicacole. Now the water in the channel is fresh. I tasted it. The villagers all round assured me, that when the tide turned it became quite salt, and that sea-water runs up to a point which is from half to three-fourths of a mile from the sea. If that is to be the source of supply of brine, there will have to be a large reservoir, and, indeed, I should think two would be necessary, that after the water had evaporated considerably in the first, it might be run on to the second and evaporate further to the proper strength. The Salt Deputy-Collector calls the creek "a salt creek which branches off from the river." I have no doubt that we speak of the same channel, for I saw only one, and it is the only channel between the Nangulia and some huts to the east. I have as little doubt that when I was there, the water in that creek or channel was fresh. The only question is, could enough salt water be let into the reservoir at high tide to enable the manufacture to be carried on? and to that question, I can give no answer. If enough sea-water can be admitted into the reservoir, and doubtless at high tide the water is pure sea-water, then salt can be made, though I can offer no opinion as to the correctness of the Salt Deputy-Collector's estimate of the probable yield. The ground was so swampy and muddy that I could not get right down to the mouth of the creek, but it does not open direct into the sea. It pours its waters into the Nangulia, from which also a supply of salt-water could be obtained during those hours when the rise of the tide dams back the river water. On the whole, I think that we may calculate on being able to get enough sea-water, and the importance of having an extra supply of salt near Womeravilly is so great that I am of opinion we should be justified in trying a small gully at Mafuzbunder, if even it turned out a failure. I think it probable that the Salt Deputy-Collector has made an over-estimate of the probable yield of salt (1,100 maunds an acre), and under-estimated the probable preliminary expense including supply channels. The amount involved, however, is not large, allowing even 50 per cent. over his estimate of cost, and the site is so well adapted for a gully that I think the experiment worth trying for a year or two. The Deputy-Collector proposes to take up in this year only 20 Acres of unoccupied land, so that there will be no expense for compensation.

3. I have to point out that the gully at Mafuzbunder will labor under one most serious disadvantage. Although only four or five miles from Chicacole, there is no road between the two

places. I went in a tonjon; it was impossible to ride owing to deep muddy "geddas," of which I crossed three with very steep banks, and a swampy land which I crossed in three or four localities. This is independent of small water-courses only a yard or two in width to supply paddy fields. No bandy could get from Chicacole to Mafuzbunder at this time of the year, and it would be a disagreeable journey even when geddas etc., are dry—if they ever are dry. Pack bullocks and buffaloes could go to the gully, but not bandies. The geddas I have mentioned will have to be bridged, and the swamps made passable by a causeway being made through them: but there would be no difficulty in doing all that, though, if the gully is to be open this year and salt sold next year, the sooner the way of getting from this town to the gully is attended to the better. The geddas can be bridged for the present with wooden bridges, and once they are bridged it will be easy enough to run causeways over the muddy parts of the road, which later on, however, may be dry. The country is flat enough, and there can be no difficulty in making a road, though it will take some time. The Local Fund Board of this Circle have discussed the propriety of making a road to Mafuzbunder; but if a gully is to be made, Government would have to move in the matter, as it is quite certain the Local Fund Road will not be made for two or three years. If the gully be successful, the road would greatly benefit Government, and therefore, I think, Government might fairly be requested to bear half the cost of the road.

4. There will be little difficulty in getting salt ryots to manufacture salt. The people about the place seemed to consider it quite natural that a gully should be made at Mafuzbunder. I have been given to understand that in the Vizagapatam District at not many miles distance, illicit salt has been manufactured. This may have familiarized the minds of the people in the neighborhood with the notion of manufacturing salt.

5. Your reference would have been sooner answered, but that my time has been so fully occupied, chiefly by criminal work, that I was unable to visit Mafuzbunder, until a holiday gave me an entire day to devote to the task. Although so short a distance off, about four miles from my house I should say, it is as quite out of the question riding there. I could never have got there on horseback.

(True Copies.)

(Signed)

R. DAVIDSON,

Acting Collector.

ENCLOSURE No. 2.

From R. DURMAROW, Deputy-Collector in charge of Salt Department, to C. G. MASTER, Esq., Collector of Ganjam, dated Chicacole, 29th July 1873, No. 159.

I HAVE the honor to inform you that the chief wants of the salt gully at Calingapatam are, 1st, a proper supply of brine, 2nd, a road from Chicacole to Ramabhadrapore in the district of Vizagapatam.

2. Steps have been taken to improve the supply of brine; I now beg to move for the road.

3. Calingapatam has not only a gully, but is a port with advantages which none from Durwa, in the north, to Vizagapatam, in the south, possesses. In his report on this district, Colonel F. H. Cotton says "indeed it is the only port which has not a perfectly open roadstead and unprotected beach between Coringa, 150 miles south, and Durwa in Orissa, 250 miles north" (*vide* paragraph 19 of his report). In paragraph 26, he says "I have said that Calingapatam has an advantage not possessed by any other port from Vizagapatam to Durwa in Orissa. The advantage consists of the shelter afforded by a headland south-westward of the anchorage, which reduces the swell and diminishes the surf very much during the season of the southerly winds."

4. The Government and Zemindari taluqs, lying in the north and north-west of the district of Vizagapatam, and the taluq of Chicacole and the Zemindari villages in the south of this district, are so situated geographically that grain and oil-seeds are brought in from Gunpur, Jeypore, Rayagada, Palconda, and Parvatipore of the Vizagapatam District, to Calingapatam, and salt is taken as a return load. Similarly, traders at and in the vicinity of Calingapatam take salt to

the interior and bring grain and oil-seeds as a return load. Thus, when a gully is in the same place with a port, salt is a return load for the produce of the interior and *vice versa*. The interchange reduces the cost of carriage and brings the sale of salt to its maximum; but there is no direct line of communication from Salur to Calingapatam. The gully salt sale has not therefore been at its maximum. Goods worth Rupees 2,65,261-6-11* are annually brought to Calingapatam, and salt worth Rupees 3,51,226* is taken to the interior, Rupees 64,794 being the total revenue of the gully. Of this salt worth Rupees 2,97,460 is taken to Salur and its adjacent Zemindaries on the northwest of Chicacole. This is all carried through villages where there is no road, and salt is therefore carried to Salur in the moon-
soons. If the communication from Salur to

* *Vide* Statement A.

† Statement B.

‡ Statement C.

Calingapatam be perfected, I expect the salt revenue of the gully would be five lakhs with a corresponding improvement in the trade of the port. There is already a road from Calingapatam to Chicacole with a first-class bridge over the Nangulia. I now propose a line from the other side of the bridge to Ramabhadrapore *via* Pondur, Marrivalsa, Regulavalsa, and Buggavalsa. Ramabhadrapore has got a road from Bimlipatam. One of its branches runs to Bobbili and Parvatipore. The other is under construction, and, when completed, will run to Salur, whence there are two roads, one to Patchipenta and the other to Thadivala at the foot of the ghaut. I understand a railway is in course of construction to Raepore, to which a line has been proposed from the ghaut and partly taken in hand by the Assistant Agent in charge of the Jeypore tracts. Thus there is every prospect of the communication from Ramabhadrapore to Raepore being perfected at no distant period, *vide* Colonel Farewell's reports and the Order of Government thereon.

§ Dated 27th March 1873, No. 49-9.

5. The increase I expect in the salt sales at Calingapatam, when the line proposed is constructed, will not in the least affect the sales in the district of Vizagapatam, for the gully at Bimlipatam is the one which supplies the Salur market in any large quantity, but its outturn is hardly sufficient to meet nine months' demand, so that there were no sales at Bimlipatam for thirty-one months during the last ten faslies. The average outturn is only 44,995 maunds, and there is no land that can be converted into pans. The Cupply gully is equally small. The outturn is hardly sufficient to meet its local demand (*vide* Statement D). The Calingapatam pans are extensive enough to produce 300,000 maunds, if the supply of brine be good. In Fasli 1273, the outturn was quite as much as 350,000 maunds. The average outturn of the gully for the last six faslies was 197,935 maunds. That in Fasli 1282 was 250,000 maunds. Besides, the salt here is preferred to that produced in the neighboring gully of Cupply, as far as Home consumption and consumption in the Zemindaries above mentioned is concerned. If the supply of brine is improved, as I think it will, because of the steps taken to do so, I expect the outturn will be 300,000 maunds, and every grain of it will be sold if there is only a road connecting the gully with Ramabhadrapore, which has not only some important roads completed, but will be connected with the railway system in the Central Provinces as mentioned in paragraph 4.

6. The proposal of the line from Chicacole to Ramabhadrapore is not a new one. A reference to my office records shows my predecessor intended to apply for the road. The District Engineer, Vizagapatam, actually proposed it, but the Local Fund Board would not sanction it, I understand, for want of funds. The distance for which the road is required is forty miles, as the line runs entirely through the villages in the district of Vizagapatam. I have not had an opportunity of seeing the locality, but the cost would not, I think, be more than 2,00,000 Rupees a mile, or 80,000 Rupees for the whole line. The salt revenue of this district is between fifteen and sixteen lakhs of Rupees a year. That of the Calingapatam gully is about four lakhs. If the line is constructed and greater facilities for locomotion provided, I expect the gully revenue will be raised to five lakhs, if not more. The work is a very remunerative one, and the Local Fund Boards have no funds to spare. I therefore suggest that the cost be met from Imperial Funds, and the line constructed as a salt road. If funds enough for a pukka road cannot be spared, a

present for carts may be opened, and the nullies along the line bridged, so that the traffic may go on as soon as possible.

(True copy)

(Signed) R. DAVIDSON,
Acting Collector.

The Board question the advisability of opening new pans at Mafuzbunder, as proposed by the Collector, owing to the insufficiency of the supply at Womeravilly and the alleged difficulty of improving it.

2. Against the scheme there is the uncertainty of the return to be expected; it is estimated by the Deputy-Collector at 80,000 maunds, but from the Principal Assistant Collector's report it seems very doubtful whether the brine supply is such as to warrant these expectations. There is further the certain cost of establishing the manufacture and of making a road to the pans. The station would be useless without a road, and it would be an expensive one to make, crossing several creeks from the river and much low-lying land. The Board believe that the cost of the road has been under-rated, and that the sum mentioned by the Collector, viz., Rupees 5,000, would not nearly suffice.

3. The Board are inclined to think that the money requisite for establishing manufacture at Mafuzbunder would be much better laid out in improving the manufacture at Womeravilly. The latter obtains a supply of brine direct from the sea, though the channel is difficult to keep open, whilst it appears from Mr. Grahame's letter that the former would be entirely dependent on a creek leading from the mouth of the Nangulia. There seem to be, therefore, prospects of a more constant supply of brine at Womeravilly, and the Board think that it will be better to do all that is possible to improve it and to extend the manufacture at that station, than to open new pans.

4. The Collector's proposal to make a road from the south side of the Nangulia River to Ramabhadrapore in the Vizagapatam District from Imperial Funds is quite inadmissible. The distance is 20 or 30 miles, would be in the Vizagapatam District, and such a work, if carried out, is not properly chargeable to Imperial Funds.

5. Nor can the Board support the proposal to exempt salttraders from payment of tolls. The measure would lead to complications and extensive evasions, and there do not appear to be any valid grounds for the concession.

(True Copies and Extract.)

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

To Acting Collector of Ganjam.

Copy to the Collector of Vizagapatam.

Dr. J. J. L. Ratton on special duty.

Ed. W. H. French.

Sub M. manufacture — at Womeravilly in Ganjam District. — Collector informed that Board think that it will be better to do all that is possible to improve and extend — than to open new pans at Mafuzbunder. Proposal of Collector to make a road from the south side of the Nangulia River to Ramabhadrapore in Vizagapatam District from Imperial Funds, and to exempt salttraders from payment of tolls, rejected.

OCTOBER,
No. 2,981.

Received

Dec 20/75

Encl.

PROCEEDINGS, 13TH OCTOBER 1874, No. 2,981.

1874.
BOARD of REVENUE,
MADRAS.

Revenue Department

Proceedings of the Board of Revenue
Dated 3rd February 1875
Read the following:

No. 269

From
G. R. Leggatt Esq. C.E.
Executive Engineer in Charge
Chicacole Range
To
R. Davidson Esq.
Acting Collector of Ganjam Dist.

Sir
As requested by you I have the honor to submit a statement showing the probable cost of bridging the four principal streams that intersect the proposed new line of road between Pata Chicacole and Mafuzbunder. I am of opinion that a good improved bandy track could be without difficulty opened between Mafuzbunder and would not cost more than Rs. 1500 if judiciously laid out.

The amount of estimate recently submitted to the District Engineer

Engineer for a metalled road to Mapuz-
bunder was Rs. 8977. This sum inclu-
ded the four bridges mentioned in
accompanying statement as well as
11 culverts, which latter are estimated
at Rs. 1095.

I have &c.

No. II of Chicacole } (Sd) Geo. P. Leggatt C.E.
Range office, } Executive Engr.
9th Decr 1874 }

Memo of large masonry works
proposed to be constructed on Mapuz-
bunder Road.

1. Tunnel of 2 vents of 9 feet span each 745-0-0
2. Do. of 2 vents of 6 feet span each 660-0-0
3. Do. of 2 vents of 10 feet span each 755-0-0
4. Do. of 1 vent of 10 feet span each 460-0-0
Total Rs. 2620-0-0

No. 2695 (Sd) Geo. P. Leggatt C.E.
Executive Engr.

Submitted to the Board of Revenue
in continuation of this office letter
dated 28th November 1874 No. 2541.

Camp Bircholly } (Sd) R. Davidson
17th Decr 1874 } As Collector
Surgiam.

To
The Secretary to the Board of
Revenue Madras.

Submitted

Submitted to Government in
Continuation of Board's Proceedings
14th January 1875 No. 68.

2. From this letter, it would seem
that the estimate for Rs. 8977 referred
to in the last para of the Proceedings
above quoted and which has
been returned to the Collector, refe-
red to the line proposed by the
Range Officer.

(True copy & Extract)

Board's Pro: 27th
November 1874
No. 3448.

H. G. Horns
As Secretary

To
The Secretary to Government
Revenue Department

E. J. Mayhew

Secretary

No. 261

Proceedings of the Madras Government
Under date the 18th February 1875

Read the following
Proc of the Board of Revenue

Submg: proposal to open an
experimental salt station at
Mafuzbunder, Ganjam Dt. to
supplement the deficient supply
at Woncravilly; &c.

H.E. 14: Jan'y. 1875, No. 68.

Submg: endorse^t of Gov. of Ganjam
forwarding copy of Mr. Leggatt's
letter regarding the probable cost
of bridging the 4 principal streams
which intersect the proposed
new road to Mafuzbunder.

" 3rd February 1875, No.

The proposal of the
Board of Revenue to
open a new salt station
at Mafuzbunder as an
experiment is sanctioned.

[Signature]

14 Board of Revenue, 19 Feb

[Signature]

CM 230/75

No. 4108
Ganjam 1875
Proceedings of the
Board of Revenue

Dated 3rd Feb 1875
Copy 3
Recd 4

1875
1875
1875

Submtg & Govt.
Proceedings of the
Ganjam, Ganjam Dt.
Copy of Mr. Leggatt's
letter regarding the
probable cost of
bridging the 4 principal
streams which intersect
the proposed new road
to Mafuzbunder.

New South
at Memphis
Mr. Gentry
Died