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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

Revenue DEPARTMENT

G.O. No. 51 Press
~~B.P. No.~~ ~~Mis.~~

Dated 12-1-1875 ~~196~~ .

Not to be folded or roughly handled

No. 110. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 20th July 1874, No. 1,875 :—

Read the following letters :—

From R. W. BARLOW, Esq., Collector of Chingleput, to J. GROSE, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Sydapet, 26th May 1874, No. 228.

In reply to paragraph 2 of the Proceedings of the Board, dated 4th December last, No. 2,474, I have the honor to forward, in original, the explanation* furnished by Deputy Collector D. V. Narasinga Row. No expression of my own opinion is, I believe, required.

* No. 316, dated 21st May 1874, with two enclosures (to be returned.)

2. The report called for at paragraph 6 will be furnished shortly on receipt of certain statistics from the Salt Deputy Collector, to whom a reminder was sent on receipt of Board's Official Memorandum, No. 440, dated 31st March last.

Enclosure No. 1.

From D. V. NARASINGA ROW, Deputy Collector in Charge of Salt, to R. W. BARLOW, Esq., Collector of Chingleput, dated Madras, 21st May 1874, No. 316.

With reference to your endorsement of the 21st January 1874, No. 83, on the Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 4th December 1873, No. 2,474, directing me to furnish an explanation as to my reasons for retaining Narasingabhan at Nowpadah after his removal had been ordered by the Collector, and for depriving certain ryots of their holdings, I beg to state that Narasingabhan was certainly not a man of known bad character, nor is it the case he had been ordered by the Collector to be removed from the Nowpadah pans. The circumstances are as follow.

2. When I was in charge of the Ganjam District a Vettian of the Nowpadah pans, on a salary of Rupees 5 per month, was charged before the Principal Assistant Magistrate, Mr. Grahame, with having stolen 8 Annas worth of straw. The prisoner, I believe, defended himself by stating that while he was having the straw carried by coolies from one platform to another, under the orders of the said Narasingabhan, it being midday the coolies refused to carry it to the appointed place, but threw it near his house which lay on their way, and that the Salt servants through spite had got up the case against him. When Narasingabhan and another Station Assistant were examined in the case the former denied having given the Vettian any order to remove the straw. The prisoner, however, having brought forward one or two witnesses to say that Narasingabhan did give him the orders the case was dismissed. These witnesses, I believe, were examined behind Narasingabhan's back. The Principal Assistant Magistrate, Mr. Grahame, made a remark in his Calendar that Narasingabhan had committed perjury in the case, and sent me a copy of it. It certainly did not appear to me that the evidence brought by the prisoner against Narasingabhan was of so conclusive a nature as to justify the remark made by the Principal Assistant Magistrate. However, in deference to the Proceedings of his Court I sent a Memorandum to the District Gazette, exchanging Narasingabhan with the Assistant at the Itchapore pans. The latter official expressed his great unwillingness for the change, and meanwhile Narasingabhan brought some respectable persons before me to satisfy me that the witnesses who had given evidence against him were his bitter enemies. He further stated that as there was some straw on the platform at the time referred to in the Proceedings there was no necessity for him to have given any order for straw to be taken there, and that if the witnesses for the Vettian had been examined before him he would have proved the same. I felt satisfied with these statements and wrote a takeed that he should remain where he was, pending any further orders. This took place two weeks before I left the district. After I returned from leave I was put in charge of special duty on Famine Relief works, and from that appointment I was transferred to Chingleput on promotion. I could not, of course, anticipate that Narasingabhan would commit such irregularities as have now been brought to notice.

3. With farther reference to this man Mr. Grahame, in paragraph 9 of his report, remarks "One of the Salt Vettians had been accused of stealing some of the straw collected for thatching the heaps of salt. He called Narasingabhan as a witness in his defence. After examining Narasingabhan I was of opinion that he had given false evidence, and recorded my opinion to that effect in my judgment. The Deputy Collector D. V. Narasinga Row was in Court when I examined Narasingabhan. I told him what I thought. He agreed with me." Now, as stated in paragraph 2 of this letter, the witnesses called by the Vettian to prove that he had removed the straw from one platform to another on the orders of the Station Assistant Narasingabhan were not examined in the presence of that official, but on a separate day that the Court was adjourned, and when neither he nor I was present, so there was no room to form an opinion whether his mere denial was false or not; consequently Mr. Grahame could not have told me that the evidence given by Narasingabhan was false, nor did I express any agreement with him. His memory is really at fault. I did not know his opinion till I saw his calendar in the case, which was sent to me some days after. I certainly did not tell Mr. Grahame that I would not allow Narasingabhan to remain at Nowpadah in consequence of what had occurred during the trial of the case, and of other things that I knew of Narasingabhan. I attended the Principal Assistant Magistrate's Court at his request, and my impression at the time was that some of the Salt servants must have got up the case against the Vettian through spite.

4. In paragraph 40 Mr. Grahame points out that I had deprived one Kurri Korladu and Dallijungam of their pans, and that no written order was issued to that effect about the former, but only about the latter. I beg to state that the two individuals above alluded to are really men of very bad character, and often used to interrupt our manufacture and cause loss to the State, as well as to the other manufacturers. One season I took a handful of salt from Kurri Korladu's pans, and expressed my opinion that all the salt of the kind of any manufacturer should be rejected and not allowed to be taken over the platform. The manufacturers being only of two castes, Reddikies and Pariahs, Kurri Korladu instigated them to leave the works for about two weeks, when the Collector, Mr. Forbes, ordered me to dismiss fifteen manufacturers who opposed my orders, and had the case inquired into by the then Acting Principal Assistant Collector, Mr. Leman. Kurri Korladu was one of those dismissed. On another occasion he and Dallijungam joined together, and forging the signatures of several other manufacturers petitioned the Collector and the Board to the effect that the Salt Superintendent had thrown 2,16,000 maunds of salt into the water, and that the kudivaram of that quantity should be paid to them; the fact being that only a comparatively small quantity of inferior salt mixed with mud, and which was carried over the platform after the manufacture was discontinued, had actually been thrown into the water under the orders of the Collector. The report on the latter case is on the Board's records, to which reference can be made if necessary, when, in the first instance, I received the Collector's orders to dismiss Korladu and several other manufacturers. I did not take that extreme measure, but quietly set them to work, believing that matters might become worse. At the same time also, although he and Jangam had committed yet more serious irregularities, I did not deprive them of their holdings.

5. I now respectfully beg to state that Kurri Korladu is a Zenatdar or a pan-holder, and Dallijungam does not possess any pans. A reference to paragraphs 19 and 20 of my letter to the Collector of Ganjam, dated 26th February 1870, No. 41, which is on the Board's records, and a copy of which was furnished to me by the Sub-Secretary, dated 19th February last, or a reference to the Collector will prove this. Mr. Grahame's statement itself shows that I had not issued any orders to resume the pans of Korladu, though I used to intimidate him by threats of dismissal if he did not behave better. I did not even issue orders verbally on the subject, and there is a Circular Order passed by me to all the Superintendents in that district that my verbal orders should not be carried out. The Superintendents must have requested me not to allow these two persons to enter the pans for fear they might interrupt the process of the manufacture. I told him that I could not issue such an order about Korladu, but that Jangam should not be admitted and passed an order to that effect. In the Ganjam District I have established new

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pans and extended the old ones at all the divisions, which I distributed to the people; but I never was in the habit of depriving the ryots of their holdings, and there cannot be a single case of the kind on the records of the Collector. However, the salt pans in that district are not so valuable as in this district. The manufacturers leave the pans waste and sometimes give them up, and the Superintendents under the orders of the Deputy Collector get other ryots to work them.

6. I think it necessary that I should here afford a more detailed account of the character and services of Narasingabhan. I believe he was in the Salt Department of Nowpadah and Womeravilly pans for about eighteen years as a Golah Duffadar and Station Assistant Superintendent from 10 to 15 Rupees salary. The watching of the salt manufacture at Nowpadah pans was entrusted to his care under the orders of the Superintendent, Mr. Palmer, before the regular Police was introduced and previous to my joining the district. For several years since he was employed in assisting the Police officers in detecting cases of theft. During the day the thieves used to run away with salt, but Narasingabhan being well acquainted with all the people in the neighbourhood of Nowpadah was able to identify the thieves from a distance and point them out to the Police. I believe there are some reports to this effect on the records of the Ganjam Salt Deputy Collector's office. On this account the people used to fear him more than anybody else. With regard to salt duties he is a man of great experience, and possesses a practical knowledge of the subject. He used duly to carry out my orders in improving the structure of the beds and quality of salt, and he would manifest great interest in any other work entrusted to his care. He used to store large quantities of salt every year and have it nicely covered, so that it might not be damaged during the monsoon, and there must be some salt now at Nowpadah stored by him. He is a man of extraordinary ability, and not only conducted himself well under my orders but was very popular among all classes of people: otherwise hundreds of people would not have followed him, as stated by Mr. Grahame, when he was committed to the Court. I could not recommend him for promotion solely because he was not a *passed* candidate.

Vide paragraph 8.

7. Notwithstanding the high opinion thus entertained of his character it is necessary for me to remark that about six or eight years ago there was a case before me in which the Superintendent of Nowpadah pans had made away with some salt in selling two heaps, showing a large wastage in one and an excessive quantity in the other. Two of the witnesses for the defence stated that a mistake had occurred in storing. I did not believe the statement and Narasingabhan was also called as a witness in the case when he denied any knowledge of a mistake having occurred. It struck me that Narasingabhan, being a man of influence at the place, might have assisted the Superintendent in getting up the above two witnesses, and that he might possibly have combined with the Superintendent in the matter. There was nothing to prove that he had done so; but to keep him on his guard and to make him understand that he should not think too much of his abilities, but that I would have him punished like other persons in case he should commit any irregularities, I thought it better to make a note of my suspicion in the report though I could not recommend any punishment to be awarded him. However, I removed him on that occasion to another set of pans, and the Collector, Mr. Carmichael, dismissed the Superintendent and the other Assistant. Afterwards, when on appeal the Board of Revenue ordered the two accused parties to be reinstated, I transferred Narasingabhan again to Nowpadah. Since then, and during the whole period of Narasingabhan's service, there has been nothing on public records to show that he is a man of bad character.

8. As I have rendered the necessary information called for by Government I beg to offer a few remarks only on paragraphs 29 and 30 of Mr. Grahame's report, and hope that I may be pardoned for the same.

9. In paragraph 29 Mr. Grahame, looking to the monthly and fortnightly sales of a portion of the year 1872, from March to July, and the remittances from 3rd January to July, points out that the sales were steady before the theft began and since began to decline from 64,094 to 2,347 Indian Maunds, and that likewise the remittances fell off from 1,00,000 to 42,000 Rupees, and then ceased altogether in June and July.

10. And again in paragraph 30 the same officer, pointing out the monthly and fortnightly sales of the year 1872 in each month from March to July, and of the corresponding period of three previous years, states that there is an extraordinary falling off in the sales, and that the figures would speak for themselves. From these statements the Collector, the Board, and the Government presumed that the smuggling reported to have taken place had affected seriously the sales at Nowpadah. I beg most respectfully to annex copies of Mr. Grahame's statement marked A, C, D, E and G, adding thereto the sales of twelve months of that year in which smuggling took place and of the preceding years with my remarks thereon.

11. It will be observed from the statements in question that although there is a falling off, as usual, in some of the months of the year in which the salt was smuggled yet taking the whole sales of the twelve months there is an increase of 82,247 maunds to the average sales of the previous and subsequent years as shown in the Statement F under the head of Faslis 1280 and 1282. Likewise an increase of 26,143 maunds will be observed on referring to the average sales of the corresponding period of the past three years in Faslis 1278, 1279 and 1280 of the same statement; consequently it is perfectly clear that the sales were not affected owing to the smuggling suspected by Mr. Grahame. Referring to the total sales of the year 1869, or Fasli 1278, it will be seen that the sales were higher than those of any of the subsequent three years; and yet from Mr. Grahame's own figures in Statement E the monthly sales for a portion of the year show a falling off of 40,919 maunds lower than those of the year 1872, or Fasli 1281, in which salt is suspected to have been so largely smuggled; while stated in Mr. Grahame's report that the *sales in* 1869 *were small in comparison with* 1870-71. On the whole, carefully looking to the statements adverted to above, it will appear that there was no falling off in the Home or retail and inland sales in the year of this alleged smuggling. Moreover, the quantity of salt detected in twenty villages by the Police was only 1,200 Indian Maunds. I therefore respectfully leave it to the higher authorities to decide on further consideration whether after all it is probable that any considerable quantity of salt was smuggled at the Nowpadah pans during the year 1872.

12. In the Ganjam District the sales sometimes rise very high and sometimes fall very low. This depends upon the season when Brinjaries enter the district to purchase salt. This will be illustrated on perusing the sales for a series of years.

13. On certain occasions, when there was a great variation in the sales for more than one lakh of Rupees, explanations were rendered on different occasions which can be traced out from the records of the Board's office, as well as from those of the Deputy Collector's office of that district.

14. With regard to the falling off and cessation of the remittances I beg to point out that the sales are generally high from December to April of every year, and the sales for the remaining months will not be equal to one month's sales in the months between December and April; so there will be no remittances at all from June to November or December again, and the falling off or the cessation of the remittances is not considered to be the result of the great smuggling reported to have taken place. Mr. Grahame seems to have submitted a comparative statement showing the remittances from January to July for a portion of the period in each year, *i. e.*, from the year 1867 to 1871. I have not received a copy of that statement, but if he had prepared one to show the remittances of twelve months in each year I am confident he would have been satisfied that the salt proceeds of the year in which the smuggling supposed to have taken place were larger than in the two *previous years* or in the *subsequent year*.

15. When we refer to the sales of the Nowpadah pans it will be fair to take the sales at Womeravilly pans also, for they are close to one another and the merchants resort from one pan to another for several reasons (as at Homes' Garden and Madras in this district) which I think unnecessary here to assign. But, however, I beg to point out that the sales of the Ganjam and Itchapore pans appear to have fallen in the year of the alleged smuggling at the Nowpadah pans; but it is not to be supposed that thefts at Nowpadah pans could affect the sales of the pans at a distance of 50 and 80 miles off without diminishing the Home or inland sales at that

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spot. It is well known that there have been great restrictions for some years past against the Ganjam and Itchapore salt being exported to the Central Provinces through the Regulation districts of Bengal, consequently the sales are declining at those pans, and thus the decreases in the sales at the above pans can be accounted for without any reference to smuggling at Nowpadah.

16. In some years, when the stock at the Ganjam and Itchapore pans is exhausted, the merchants then alone resort to the Nowpadah pans.

17. In paragraph 81 of Mr. Grahame's report it is stated, "had the system of passes been in force the chances are that a large quantity of the salt stolen this year would never have left the district but have been stopped and seized," and he recommends that passes, according to the form shown in the margin of his report, should be introduced. I beg to state that the form in question is already in force up to date, and is prepared in triplicate. Two passes are given to every merchant who goes out of the platform with any quantity of salt. He delivers one to the Police at the gate, another is taken with him to cover his salt, and the third remains in the book, so that every merchant is aware that he must have a pass to cover his salt in transit. Of course there were no Chowkies or a separate establishment to examine the rowannahs even when the Rowannah system was in force. I believe there were Chowkies before the Sawer was abolished.

18. There are several other points on which I thought of offering a few observations, but could not take the liberty of doing so without the permission of the Government.

19. I beg to apologise for the delay, which is mainly to be attributed to the constant heavy nature of my duties in the important post I am now holding and getting returns and accounts from the Board and the Ganjam District.

ENCLOSURES No. 2 and 3.—Statements.

From R. DAVIDSON, Esq., Acting Collector of Ganjam, to J. GROSE, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Chetterpore, 22nd May 1874, No. 1,290.

WITH reference to the Board's Proceedings of the 4th December 1873, No. 2,174, I have the honor to forward, for the Board's information, copy of a letter from Mr. Grahame, dated the 2nd instant, with an enclosure from Mr. Thompson, explaining, with reference to the order of Government, dated 23rd October 1873, No. 1,151, his conduct in connection with the Nowpadah salt frauds.

2. I am not in a position to offer an opinion regarding the character of Mr. Thompson's explanation, as I was not in the district at the time when the frauds occurred; but in regard to Mr. Grahame's suggestion, that a duplicate copy of all correspondence relating to Salt matters should be furnished to him, I beg to remark that, unless it is the intention of Government to transfer from the Collector to the Principal Assistant the responsibility connected with the manufacture of salt in the Sub-Division, I fail to see that by the adoption of Mr. Grahame's suggestion any compensating advantage would be attained for the extra work which would be thrown on the Salt Deputy Collector, whose correspondence would be doubled at the cost of an increased establishment, and who would labor under the disadvantage of having two masters with, perhaps, conflicting orders to obey instead of one. What appears to me to be required of the Principal Assistant is that he should visit the salt manufactories within his division from time to time, make suggestions, report any irregularities that he may discover, and exercise a general supervision over the works, and if he does this there is very little likelihood of any systematic fraud going undetected in his division.

3. With reference to paragraph 3 of the Board's Proceedings under reply, I beg to enclose copies of the decisions in appeal passed by the Sessions Judge in the criminal cases relating to the Nowpadah salt frauds. No other Proceedings than those now submitted have been received from the Sessions Judge. All that can be gathered from them is that the evidence against the prisoners was considered by the Judge to be either insufficient or unreliable; hence the reversal of the sentences.

4. Referring to paragraph 5 of the Proceedings I beg to enclose copy of my Salt Deputy Collector's letter, from which it will be seen that the protective works that have been deemed necessary are (1) the excavation of ditches around the platforms, (2) planting hedges round the same, (3) raising of watch-towers on the platforms to a sufficient height, (4) the excavation of moats around the pans, and (5) the substitution of movable bridges for the existing open pathways to the platforms.

5. The excavation of ditches round the platforms is being effected, but the question of hedging the platforms which have ditches is at present in an undetermined state. It was originally proposed to plant prickly-pear around all the platforms at Nowpadah; but with reference to the Board's Proceedings of the 10th ultimo, No. —, I have now instructed the Deputy Collector only to plant it round such platforms as have no ditches. I have asked the Deputy Collector to state whether the hedges in addition to ditches are absolutely necessary to afford adequate protection, and have called upon him also to submit his propositions on the subject. Under any circumstances the ditches will have to be properly deepened and kept in thorough order.

6. The heightening of the watch-towers is also in progress.

7. As to the moats round the pans the Soorla pans have already been provided with a moat all round. There is also a channel round the pans at Womeravilly, and a proposal to widen and deepen it is now under consideration. The Ganjam and Nowpadah pans cannot possibly be surrounded by a moat unless they are concentrated, an arrangement which, however desirable, would be a work of no slight difficulty; but the question of this concentration may well lie over until we see what effect the lately enhanced prices of salt will have on the sales at Ganjam and Soorla. The Board are aware of the difficulty of concentrating the manufacture of salt at these pans, for, in their Proceedings of the 10th ultimo, the Board observed that it was impossible to concentrate the Ganjam pans.

8. The construction of movable bridges in lieu of the pathways to the platforms has been undertaken and it will be duly prosecuted to completion.

9. As to the efficient guarding of the pans during the manufacturing season arrangements have been made to employ Samastanam Paiks drafted from the Goomsur Taluq in the several gullies, and the system has proved successful.

10. The question of improving the position of the Salt Superintendents and their establishments is a very important one, and it has received my best attention. The following are the suggestions which I have to offer for the attainment of that desirable object.

11. I consider it essential that the salaries of the Salt Superintendents should be raised, and I think that were the following scale adopted it would place the department on a highly satisfactory footing at a very moderate outlay considering the advantages which the change will secure. I would increase the pay of the

			Rs.	Increase.
Ganjam Superintendent	from Rs.	85 to	175	90
Itchapore	do.	,, 85 to	125	40
Nowpadah	do.	,, 125 to	200	75
Womeravilly	do.	,, 100 to	150	50
		Total...		255

12. The Salt Deputy Collector proposes, with reference to the existing salaries, to give 150 to the Ganjam and Rs 175 to the Womeravilly Superintendents, but the work at Ganjam is of a more difficult and arduous nature than at Womeravilly owing to the pans at Ganjam being inconveniently scattered over a large area; besides which Ganjam is disadvantageously situated as regards the insalubrity of its climate. I think therefore that the Ganjam Superintendent should receive Rupees 175 and the Womeravilly man Rupees 150 per mensem.

13. The pay also of the Station Assistant Superintendents should, I think, be materially raised. Their present pay is insignificant when contrasted with the very heavy and responsible

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duties they have to perform, and which in point of fact are little less important than those discharged by the Superintendents. I would therefore suggest that their pay should be doubled as shown below:—

1st Class from Rs. 25 to Rs. 50.
2nd do. do. ,, 20 to ,, 40.
3rd do. do. ,, 15 to ,, 30.

14. The Deputy Collector proposes the employment of an additional Assistant Superintendent at Womeravilly, of an additional Shroff at Nowpadah on Rupees 10, and of an Attender on Rupees 8 at each of the gullies. I think these requests are reasonable and accordingly support them, and I entirely agree with the Deputy Collector in thinking that the Gully Smith should receive batta in the same way that the Deputy Collector's Clerks do. The Smith is constantly on the move, as his services are continually needed at the different gullies, and it is but fair that he should be paid batta.

15. The Deputy Collector's proposal to increase the pay of his 1st and 2nd Clerks, and to permit them to draw mileage in addition to batta, does not commend itself to me, as I do not think a sufficient case has been made out in their favor.

16. I append a statement showing the Salt Establishments as at present existing, and as proposed. It will be seen that the financial result of my proposals is an increase of Rupees 5,484 per annum over the present cost; but I apprehend that the advantages which will accrue from the adoption of the more liberal scale of remuneration which I have suggested will more than compensate for the increased expenditure on an establishment through whose hands nearly half the revenue of the district passes, whose duties are arduous, responsible and unpopular, and whose honesty is sorely tried, as was lately evidenced in the Paloor and Nowpadah frauds.

17. The Salt Deputy Collector's head quarters have been transferred to Nowpadah, and as there is already an excellent Government building at Nowpadah suitable for the office of the Deputy Collector there is no necessity to construct a new one. If any additions are found to be necessary they can be made in due course of time. While on this subject I beg to point out that the G. O., dated 23rd October 1873, No. 1,151, Revenue Department, on which the Board's Proceedings under reply were passed, makes no allusion to Mr. Master's recommendation contained in paragraph 10 of his letter, dated 28th February 1873, No. 447, to allow the Deputy Collector to draw travelling allowance at Rupees 4 per diem instead of Rupees 8, and to permit him to draw it permanently subject to the fourteen days proviso. The Board to some extent supported this recommendation in paragraph 13 of their Proceedings, dated 16th July 1873, No. 1,296. I beg strongly to reiterate the above recommendation, as some slight compensation to the Deputy Collector for the discomfort he will experience in having to live more constantly at Nowpadah than he has heretofore done.

Enclosure No. 1.

From W. F. GRAHAME, Esq., Acting Principal Assistant Collector, to R. DAVIDSON, Esq., Acting Collector of Ganjam, dated Chicacole, 2nd May 1874, No. 98.

I have the honor to return the bundle of papers connected with the Nowpadah frauds as requested in your letter of 21st April. They would have been returned sooner, but that Mr. J. J. Thompson, Tahsildar of Chicacole, asked me to submit an explanation from him with reference to the severe censure passed on him by Government when reviewing the Board of Revenue's Proceedings on the frauds in question. This explanation of Mr. Thompson was handed to me only this week. I forward it to you for submission to Government, through the Board of Revenue, if you think fit to submit it. Mr. Thompson points out that when the Nowpadah frauds were going on he was engaged in the investigation of the Paloor frauds and on other duty, and that he was ill with fever contracted from exposure when on duty. I am of opinion that Mr. Thompson is physically unfit for the post of General Duties Deputy Collector or Salt Deputy Collector, especially in Ganjam, in which district there is so much travelling to be done. He is fit for the post of Treasury Deputy Collector.

2. With reference to paragraph 2 of the Board of Revenue's Proceedings I have to point out that Narasingabhan was not removed by order of the Collector. His removal was gazetted by the Salt Deputy Collector; the counter order was a departmental order.

3. From Mr. Master's Memorandum I gather that he intended me to submit any remarks I might wish to make on the censure passed on me by the Board in paragraph 15 of their Proceedings, No. 1,296, of 16th July 1870, and by Government in paragraph 5 of G. O., No. 1,151, of 23rd October 1873. With all respect to the Board I beg to submit that I have not been so careless as they imply. Paragraph 2 of Standing Order, No. 200-1, is practically a dead letter, and must always remain so so long as it continues to be the rule that Sub-Collectors receive no returns, reports or information from the Salt Department. The Salt Deputy Collector communicates directly with the Collector, and to the Collector are submitted returns and reports from all gullies both sub-divisional and others. The Sub-Collector is never informed of what is going on at the pans when the manufacture is to begin or to cease, what is the dittum for the gullies in his division, or any other information. It under such circumstances impossible for him to exercise "supreme and general control" over the salt pans in the Sub-Division. This has been the case in the three districts I have served in, and in Ganjam Departmental orders from the Salt Deputy Collector to his subordinates were not submitted to the Collector until I gave* orders that a copy of every Salt Departmental order should be submitted to the Collector. As regards myself I have more than once in every year since I came here visited the salt pans in my division, examined the treasury and cash and stamps, inspected the pans and salt platforms, and on several occasions made suggestions which were not attended to. I first visited Womeravilly and Nowpadah in May 1871, when Mr. Carr was Collector. I pointed out to him various points on which the Board's orders were neglected, and he gave orders on the subject. A few months after that the scarcity of 1871-72 came on us and absorbed to itself all our attention, and that was not over when the Nowpadah frauds were discovered. I have more than once pointed out that the Board of Revenue's orders were being disregarded, but to put in proper order the pans in this district will require a large sum of money and considerable time. At the same time had the pans and platforms been in the very best order the Nowpadah frauds could and would have taken place. They were, as Mr. Master observes, "the result of a combination upon which general supervision could have had but little effect." To have entirely prevented them it would have been necessary to know first how they were going to be carried out; and, secondly, for the Sub or Deputy Collector to have remained at Nowpadah for over two months, and to have watched the pans all that time.

* When Acting for Mr. Master in 1872.

4. With reference to paragraph 3 of the Board of Revenue's Proceedings, No. 2,474, of 4th December 1873, I have to inform you that, except the judgments in appeal forwarded to Mr. Master, I have received no communication on the subject from the Sessions Judge. I have never received any Proceedings from him reviewing all the cases as a whole. I think he was of opinion that one witness† to an overt act was not sufficient to justify a conviction under the circumstances, considering that the witnesses were either informers or Policemen, who by their own confession had been guilty of neglect of duty. The Sessions Judge in several places remarked, that it was clear that several other persons were present whose evidence might have been and was not taken, and asked why A, B, C, D, etc., were not examined. Now each of these possible witnesses was in custody awaiting trial for the very same offence. It is quite clear what sort of evidence they would have given.

† There were not many witnesses, and it seemed impossible to get more than one witness to any one overt fact. This was partly owing to the inability of the witnesses to give the dates of the various occurrences.
(Signed) W. F. G.

5. The present salaries of the Salt Superintendents of Womeravilly and Nowpadah are Rupees 100 and Rupees 125, respectively. The average receipts for salt at Nowpadah for the last three years have been over 5½ lakhs and at Womeravilly over 3 lakhs, and the receipts will probably rise. Considering the disagreeable stations at which they are posted, the onerous nature of their

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duties, the peculiar temptations to which they are subjected, and the large amount of revenue which passes through their hands, I think the Nowpadah Superintendent would not be over-paid by a salary of Rupees 200, and the Womeravilly Superintendent by a salary of Rupees 150. At the same time I doubt if a man inclined to be dishonest would be restrained by the receipt of even a higher salary than I have named.

(True Copy.)

(Signed) R. DAVIDSON,
Acting Collector.

ENCLOSURE No. 2.

From Mr. J. J. THOMPSON, Tahsildar, to W. F. GRAHAME, Esq., Principal Assistant Collector of Ganjam, dated Chicacole, 22nd April 1874.

I RESPECTFULLY beg to submit an explanation in reference to the Order of Government, dated 23rd October 1873, No. 1,151, Revenue Department, prohibiting my re-employment in the capacity of a Deputy Collector, and beg you will kindly forward it to Government through the Collector with your favorable recommendation.

2. The Government were pleased to pass the above-mentioned order in connection with the Salt frauds of Nowpadah, because I was Acting Salt Deputy Collector at the time they were committed.

3. It will be seen from the following statement that at the time the frauds were practised at Nowpadah I was engaged on important duties in other parts of the district.

4. D. V. Narasinga Row's services having been placed at the disposal of the Hon. Mr. Thornhill on Special Duty, I was telegraphed to by the Collector to assume charge of the Salt Deputy Collector's office, and I accordingly proceeded by dawk to Itchapore and took charge on the 18th January 1872.

5. Mr. Thornhill and the Collector arrived at Itchapore in the meanwhile, and under their instructions I supervised the excavation of a salt channel at Soorla intended as a Famine Relief work, and after having set the work a-going in a few days I left the place for Ganjam on the 5th February.

6. Dr. Ratton arrived in the district on special duty at the beginning of February, and I was directed to give him my assistance on his tour from Ganjam to Chicacole. I was accordingly engaged with that gentleman as noticed in his report until the early part of March 1872.

7. Constant travelling since I assumed charge of the department threw my office work into a little arrears, to bring up which I had to remain a few days in Chicacole. I set out again to inspect the several gullies on the 22nd March, and on my arrival at Nowpadah I was given to understand that a theft of a considerable quantity of salt had taken place *from the pans* while the manufacture was going on. I held an investigation into the matter and forwarded the proceedings to the Assistant Superintendent of Police with a letter, dated 27th March 1872, No. 108, bringing to his notice the fact that the Police Inspector in charge of the pans, with 100 Policemen at his disposal, was not discharging his duty satisfactorily; this Inspector was ultimately dismissed, and the Assistant Salt Superintendent of the division from which the salt was stolen. I removed to Ganjam with the Collector's sanction; from Nowpadah I proceeded on the 27th March to Soorla and thence to Ganjam.

8. On reaching Ganjam I was told that a great deal of salt is smuggled from that gully into the neighbouring Zemindari estates, to prevent which I set about making very careful inquiries, and I proposed to the Collector and Captain Pickance, the Superintendent of Police, that a European Head Constable should be placed to watch the gully, and the suggestion was successfully adopted.

9. The salt manufactured at Ganjam had been alway. far below the annual demand from the Bengal Presidency on that Depôt. The Collector therefore directed that I should take step to have a larger quantity of salt produced at Ganjam in 1872.

10. For this purpose, and to put a stop to the illegal proceedings at those pans, I encamped at Ganjam till about the 20th April, and through my instrumentality the salt frauds at Paloor and Preyaga were detected. In consequence of my protracted stay in Ganjam I contracted the Ganjam fever and had to run into Chetterpore for medical treatment, where I was very bad until the end of April.

11. In the month of May I moved about in my weakly state and reported upon the clandestine manufacture of salt at Paloor and Soorla.

12. I had hardly finished my work at Soorla I was attacked with a relapse of the Ganjam fever and was obliged to dawk into Chicacole for medical aid. I suffered much from this relapse, and was disabled from travelling again until about the middle of June, when I proceeded to Calingapatam and held an inquiry into certain irregularities which took place at the Womeravilly gully; thence I went on to Nowpadah as soon as circumstances permitted, and I inquired into the salt frauds which were perpetrated at those pans, and submitted my proceedings to yourself and Mr. Master with my reports.

13. Thus during the few months I filled the office of Salt Deputy Collector in this district I am not conscious of having been inactive nor of having wilfully neglected my duties. I could not have done more than I did during my short tenure of office; in fact by my zeal for the service I suffered in health seriously.

14. I am a public servant of twenty-nine years standing, and during this period I always gave satisfaction in the various responsible situations which I have filled.

15. It is very hard that I should now, as my official career is coming to a close, be debarred from promotion at a time when the Government should take my long and good services into consideration and confer on me the promotion for which I was recommended by the Collectors of this district fourteen years ago, and frequently since.

16. I am eligible for promotion to the post of Deputy Collector only until the end of this year according to the terms of the G. O., dated 1st February 1870. I beg under the circumstances that the Government will be pleased to take my case into their favorable consideration and cancel the prohibitory order passed in my case and grant me promotion before the year closes, for which act of justice I shall, as in duty bound, ever pray.

(True Copy.)

(Signed) R. DAVIDSON,
Acting Collector.

ENCLOSURES Nos. 2 to 17.—Decisions in appeal passed by the Sessions Judge in criminal cases relating to Nowpadah Salt frauds.

ENCLOSURE No. 18.

From R. DURMAROW, Deputy Collector in charge of Salt Dept., to R. DAVIDSON, Esq., Collector of Ganjam, dated Chicacole, 4th May 1874, No. 133.

WITH reference to paragraph 5 of the Board's Proceedings, dated 4th December 1873, No. 2,474, I beg to state that the protective works deemed necessary are as follow:—

1. Ditches round the platforms.
2. Hedges round do.
3. Watch-towers on do.
4. Moats round the pans.
5. Substitution of movable b dges for the existing open pathways to the platforms.

2. Ditches are being excavated round the platforms at Ganjam, Itchapore, and Nowpadah this year. Those at Womeravilly will be deepened soon.

3. *Hedges.*—There are already prickly-pear and bamboo hedges round the platforms at Ganjam. While protecting the platforms the prickly-pear does not spread. I would not therefore suggest any extirpation of the shrub. At Itchapore the platforms have bamboo fences, while those at Womeravilly have milk-hedge, but the shrub died in some places and in others it has not grown well, so the protection is not sufficient. I have therefore applied for orders to raise mud walls or to plant prickly-pear round the platforms—*Vide* my letter, No. 122, dated the 22nd ultimo. The platforms at Nowpadah had bamboo fences, which did not protect them. Sanction was given and funds placed at the disposal of the Superintendent for planting prickly-pear round the platforms, but in their Proceedings, dated the 10th ultimo, the Board said "prickly-pear may be planted where there are no ditches." As there are ditches round platforms 1, 2 and 3 I have stopped planting prickly-pear round them, pending your orders on the subject—*Vide* my letter, No. 128, dated 20th ultimo.

4. The watch-towers in all the gullies were not high enough to command the salt heaps on the platforms and the surrounding pans. Sanction was therefore obtained and funds placed at the disposal of the Superintendents to construct towers high enough. Those at Itchapore have been finished, as also a few at Ganjam, Nowpadah, and Womeravilly. The rest are being constructed and will be finished about the 20th proximo.

5. *Moats.*—There is already one round the Soorla pans dug out as a Famine Relief work in 1871 and extended 1872. I have proposed the Womeravilly gully round channel to be widened and deepened, which when completed will not only secure a good supply of brine for the pans but protect them—*Vide* my letter, No. 116, dated 13th June 1873. I believe the Range Officer is making out an estimate for the work. Nothing effectual can be done at Ganjam and Nowpadah without concentration. I would leave the pans as they are till I see what effect the new rates of salt duty would have on the sales at the gullies—*Vide* your foot-note on my letter, No. 38, dated 12th February last.

6. Movable bridges are being substituted for the pathways to platforms 1, 2 and 3 at Nowpadah, and will be finished soon when I intend sending in estimates for similar bridges over the platform ditches at the other gullies.

7. The Womeravilly pans have three platforms. The salt revenue has averaged to 3,20,523 Rupees for the last five years, and was Rupees 3,87,544 in 1871-72,* Rupees 3,14,000 in 1872-73, and Rupees 5,14,416 in 1873-74. Thus the gully revenue is on the increase. There is always a great difficulty in obtaining brine for this gully, which has only one Assistant Superintendent. He has hardly time to look after the pans and see they are supplied with brine. I therefore propose another Assistant to be given to this gully on a salary of Rupees 15 a month. There are only three Taluq Treasuries† in this district. The peishcush on the Zemindari and proprietary estates, and the Abkári and the other branches of revenue in the villages within a great distance from the gullies, are paid into the Gully Treasuries. Similarly cheques are issued on the treasuries for sums to be paid to the Department Public Works on account of works executed by them. Civil pensioners are also paid at the treasuries, which entails a heavy work on the establishments which are limited. I therefore propose an Attender on 8 Rupees a month to be appointed to each gully, who will be employed in sorting and arranging the gully records and thus be a great assistance to the Clerks who are over-worked. An Assistant Shroff on a pay of 10 Rupees a month is also required for the Nowpadah gully. The gully salt revenue is about Rupees 5,58,482. This added to the Zemindari peishcush, etc., paid into the gully treasury amounts to Rupees 7,00,000, but the treasury is allowed only one Shroff, while those at Chicacole, Goomsur, and Berhampore, into which no more than 3,00,000 Rupees are paid, have each a Shroff

* No sales for four months for want of salt.

† Goomsur, Chicacole, and Berhampore.

and an Assistant, the former on 15 Rupees a month and the latter on Rupees 10. Besides the Gully Clerks are not half as many as those in the Taluq offices.

(1.) The duties of my charge require my constant travelling. The heavy office work which has to be got through, particularly in the way of making out estimates for the gully works and preparing accounts as soon as they are executed, not to speak of the current work, necessitates my Clerks accompanying me on my long tours. The range of sea-board we have to travel over is 112 miles, the distance from the first to the last gully in the district. There is no railway or canal communication. They therefore travel in carts. The charges are heavy and the tours are frequent, but the rates of batta allowed them are small. They were fixed some ten years ago when cart and cooly-hire was much cheaper than what it now is. The consequence is they either encroach much upon their monthly income, or are put to discomfort. My Head and 2nd Clerks receive 45 and 20 Rupees a month respectively. To enable them to travel with that ease and comfort which they stand much in need of I propose that their salaries be raised to 60 and 30 Rupees, with mileage given to the Clerks who travel with the Inspectors of Schools. The Head Clerk of the Salt Deputy Collector, Chingleput District, next to which the salt work of this district is heavier than that of any other district in the Presidency, draws 70 Rupees a month.

(2.) I take this opportunity to inform you that the Gully Smith who repairs the weighing machines has to travel as constantly as my office Clerks do, and beg you will be pleased to take into your favorable consideration my suggestion that he be allowed the same travelling allowance as the Clerks are. The machinery not being simple Gully Smiths have, as a body, been selected from among men of a superior professional skill. They travel in carts. There are altogether 58 machines of all kinds now in use at the gullies in this district where the sales are generally brisk, making their wear and tear greater. This necessitates the Smiths constant travelling, but he is allowed no travelling allowance.

(3.) There is a small building at Nowpadah for my office, which I think will do for the present.

8. Before proceeding to report as to the steps to be taken towards improving the position and pay of the Salt Superintendents in this district, with reference to paragraph 6 of the Proceedings, I beg to offer a few remarks upon the nature of their duties.

(1.) Salt works are generally close to back-waters, where none but the Gully servants, the Gully Police, and the salt ryots reside. They always get their articles of food from the neighbouring villages. The gully channels sink most fearfully after manufacture is closed and before they are cleared up for the next season. The work is by no means sedentary. Superintendents and their Assistants have always to be out, conduct sales, superintend the manufacture of salt and the execution of salt works chiefly in the hot weather, and in places where they cannot possibly have any shelter. Such are the stations where they toil.

(2.) As regards their duties I beg to observe that they are heavy, responsible, and multifarious, and leave them no rest unless they shirk. In the first place a good deal of their time is occupied in storing and giving out salt. They have to visit platforms and inspect the heaps daily, to examine the gully channels, main and branch, and to see they are in repair and tide water let in well concentrated, that salt beds are properly guarded against leakage, and in short that nothing but good salt is received. They have also to watch the gully swamps and pans, and see that no spontaneous salt is precipitated and salt-earth taken away. It is on the successful discharge of their duties that any increase in the sales depends, the same as in the Abkári and Customs department. Any indifference shown in the discharge of their duties at once leads to smuggling and results in loss of revenue. Besides, the temptations in the department are great, while the chances of detection are less. The duties which the Gully Superintendents and their Assistants perform at the unpleasant and shelterless stations, and the exposure which they cannot avoid, not only tell heavily on their constitution, but have rendered the service unpopular. Gully servants lose their sight sooner than those in the other branches of the public service do. They suffer from bowel complaints and opthalmic diseases, and only those who have no chance of

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
12*th January* 1875.

bettering their prospects elsewhere seek employment in the Salt Department. Superintendents on receipt of 100 Rupees and upwards a month would be very glad to leave the department as Sub-Magistrates and Deputy Tahsildars on less pay, but only men both of activity and bodily energy, and above all of moral courage to resist the temptations, can perform the work with any success. As a first step to secure men of the proper stamp I would raise their pay as shown in the following paragraph, and make them take an oath to be prescribed they would receive no gratification whatever, and that they would do their work to the best of their ability and knowledge. As the wear and tear is greater than in other branches of the public service, I would, as another step towards inducing men of better stamp to enter the department, relax the Pension Rules in their case, and give them half pension for eighteen years' good service, provided they have spent the last ten in the Salt Department. At present few or no Salt Superintendents are taken into the other branches of the Revenue service on promotion. In order to raise their position, some of them, who have distinguished themselves by their zeal and interest in work, may be appointed Tahsildars and Superintendents of Customs as vacancies occur.

9. The Ganjam Superintendent draws 85 Rupees a month. The average revenue of the gully for the last five years was 3,51,643 Rupees. It was 2,34,226 Rupees in 1871-72,* and 3,64,946 Rupees in 1872-73. This is a very old gully. The pans are not compact. They are scattered over a very large extent of land, with paddy-fields intervening. The gully work is, therefore, heavier than it should otherwise have been. I therefore propose his pay to be raised to 150 Rupees a month.

* No sales for five months for want of salt.

(1.) The Superintendent at Itchapore draws 85 Rupees a month. The gully revenue averaged to Rupees 2,50,713 for the last five years. That of 1871-72 was Rupees 2,49,554, while the collections in 1872-73 amounted to Rupees 2,76,702. The old pans here had been abolished and new ones opened in 1862. They are compact and surrounded by a ditch. There is no difficulty in obtaining brine. The soil is well suited to salt culture. A couple of months' work is generally sufficient for the production of the dittum. Rupees 125 a month would, therefore, amply remunerate the Superintendent here.

(2.) At Nowpadah the Superintendent draws 125 Rupees a month. The average revenue of the gully was Rupees 5,58,482. It was 6,45,288 Rupees in fasli 1281 and 4,99,538 Rupees in fasli 1282. This is the oldest gully in the district. The gully has been extended as the demand increased. It is here that frauds were, and can be, committed, unless the work be very carefully performed. The villagers are, as a body, a very bad lot, and will not omit to steal anything that they can lay their hands on. The pans require to be vigilantly watched, and the gully work performed as carefully as possible. I therefore suggest the Superintendent's pay be raised to 200 Rupees a month.

(3.) The Womeravilly Gully Superintendent gets 100 Rupees a month. The revenue averaged to 3,20,523 Rupees. It was 2,51,960 Rupees in fasli 1281† and 4,04,784 in fasli 1282. The gully had been abandoned and re-opened some twenty years ago. The revenue has since been on the increase, but sales had now and then to be stopped for want of salt. There is a great difficulty in obtaining brine. Unless the supply be carefully attended to salt enough to meet the demand will not be produced. I therefore propose the Superintendent's pay to be raised to 175 Rupees a month.

† No sales for four months for want of salt.

(True Copy.)

(Signed) R. DAVIDSON,
Acting Collector.

Enclosure No. 19.—Statement showing the present and proposed Salt Establishments.

From R. DAVIDSON, Esq., Acting Collector of Ganjam, to J. GROSE, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Chetterpore, 27th May 1874, No. 1,311.

ABSTRACT.—Forwarding a copy of Mr. Thompson's Service Register.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.—Service Register.

THESE letters will be submitted for the orders of Government.

2. The former gives cover to the explanation of D. V. Narasinga Row, lately in charge of the Salt Department in Ganjam, called for by the Board in their Proceedings of 4th December 1873, No. 2,474.

The Deputy Collector enters into a lengthy explanation of his reasons for restoring Narasingabhan to his post at Nowpadah after he had been removed by his own (and not, it appears, by the Collector's) order. There seems to have been some misconception of what actually took place either on the part of Narasinga Row or Mr. Grahame; and Narasinga Row was clearly under the impression at the time that Narasingabhan was not so unworthy of trust as he has since proved himself to be. The Board think his explanation may be accepted. In the latter part of the Deputy Collector's letter he adduces arguments to show that the loss of salt must have been much over-stated. It seems to the Board quite unnecessary at this stage to re-open that part of the question, but a copy of the Deputy Collector's letter will be communicated to the Collector of Ganjam for his information.

3. The second letter is from the Collector of Ganjam replying to the same Proceedings and forwarding letters from Mr. Grahame and Mr. Thompson. On a perusal of the appeal decisions of the Sessions Judge in the matter of the salt thefts, it appears that the sentences of the Principal Assistant Magistrate were all reversed on the ground that the evidence was insufficient for conviction, and not on any technical ground; no point of law seems to have been raised, as was supposed by the Collector in paragraph 19 of his letter of 28th February 1873, No. 447, and no reference to the law-officers is necessary.

4. The Collector's proceedings in regard to protective works are approved; if the moats round the platforms are properly efficient, it may not be necessary to plant prickly-pear hedges in addition; but this is a matter which the Collector should decide as experience may dictate.

The protection of the entire pans by canals at Ganjam and Nowpadah would seem to be out of the question at all events for the present.

5. The question of increasing the salaries of the superior salt servants is one to which the Board attach great importance, and the scale proposed by the Collector is not, in their opinion, too high. They have, however, called for reports from all Collectors of Salt Districts on the subject, and purpose submitting their proposals shortly. The Board also think the Deputy Collector's Clerks (paragraph 15) are deserving of consideration, but would rather give them mileage at the usual rates in addition to batta than increased pay. Some slight compensation for living at Nowpadah might be granted to the Deputy Collector, and the Board recommend the adoption of Mr. Master's suggestion as to travelling allowance at paragraph 10 of his letter, recorded in G. O., 23rd October 1873, No. 1,151.

6. The Collector's proposals at paragraph 14 meet with the Board's approval, and the sanction of Government to the increased establishment and grant of batta to the smith is requested.

7. Adverting to paragraph 3 of Mr. Grahame's letter, the Board do not think that he has shown that it is at all necessary for a Sub-Collector to be furnished with copies of all letters and returns to enable him to exercise an effective supervision over the general management of the Salt pans within his division. The absence of such precise information is no excuse for allowing the Board's Standing orders to become a dead letter.

8. As regards Mr. Thompson's explanation, though he has in no way attempted to account for his extraordinary procedure in stopping the manufacture, or for his having failed to notice the falling off in the salt sales, the fact that he was about that time suffering severely from Ganjam fever contracted on duty has only now come to light, and the Board think that the orders of Government might be so far modified as to restrict the absolute prohibition against his future employment as Deputy Collector to the Salt and General Duty Departments.

(True Copies and Extract.)

(Signed) C. A. GALTON,
Acting Sub-Secretary.

No. 111. ORDER THEREON, 12th January 1875, No. 51.

Separate Revenue, No. 9.
Salt.

THE Government accept D. V. Narasinga Row's explanation of the reasons which led him to cancel his order transferring Narasingabhan to Itchapore.

2. His statement regarding Kari Korladu is inconsistent with the fact that the man had been deprived of the pans and had them restored by the Acting Deputy-Collector, and, from the circumstance of his having found it advisable to issue a Circular Order directing his subordinates not to carry out his verbal orders, it is to be presumed that Deputy-Collector D. V. Narasinga Row gave, orally, orders which mature consideration showed him to be irregular. The Government are unable to approve of such a mode of conducting public business.

3. The Government accept likewise Mr. Thompson's explanation, but are not prepared to reconsider their order.

4. The question of a higher scale of pay for superior salt servants has already been dealt with in G. O., dated 15th December 1874, No. 1,563.

5. The gully smiths may, under the circumstances explained by the Salt Deputy-Collector, be allowed to draw batta at the same rate as the Deputy-Collector's clerks, but the Government are not prepared to sanction the latter being specially treated either in the matter of pay or mileage allowance.

6. With reference to the Acting Collector's remarks in paragraph 17 of his letter, the Government remark that, under the views expressed by the Board in paragraph 13 of their Proceedings* of the 16th July 1873, No. 1,296, regarding the duties of the Deputy-Collector and the means of communication in Ganjam, there seem no grounds for sanctioning the Deputy-Collector drawing a higher rate of travelling allowance, and as there is a Government building available for an office he cannot be allowed to draw travelling allowance permanently, simply because Nowpadah is not a pleasant place of residence.

* Recorded in G. O., 23rd Oct. 1873, No. 1,151.

1 Assistant Superintendent at Womeravilly.
1 Shroff at Nowpadah, on Rs. 10.
1 Attender, at each gully on Rs. 8.

7. The increased establishment proposed by the Collector is sanctioned.

(True Extract.)

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

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

Exd. F. R. Bandeman.

No. 1,875.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE, dated 20th July 1874.

Read the following letters:—

From R. W. BARLOW, Esq., Collector of Chingleput, to J. GROSE, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Sydapet, 26th May 1874, No. 228.

IN reply to paragraph 2 of the Proceedings of the Board, dated 4th December last, No. 2,474, I have the honor to forward, in original, the explanation* furnished by Deputy Collector D. V. Narasinga Row. No expression of my own opinion is, I believe, required.

* No. 316, dated 21st May 1874, with two enclosures (to be returned.)

2. The report called for at paragraph 6 will be furnished shortly on receipt of certain statistics from the Salt Deputy Collector, to whom a reminder was sent on receipt of Board's Official Memorandum, No. 440, dated 31st March last.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

From D. V. NARASINGA ROW, Deputy Collector in Charge of Salt, to R. W. BARLOW, Esq., Collector of Chingleput, dated Madras, 21st May 1874, No. 316.

WITH reference to your endorsement of the 21st January 1874, No. 83, on the Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 4th December 1873, No. 2,474, directing me to furnish an explanation as to my reasons for retaining Narasingabhan at Nowpadah after his removal had been ordered by the Collector, and for depriving certain ryots of their holdings, I beg to state that Narasingabhan was certainly not a man of known bad character, nor is it the case he had been ordered by the Collector to be removed from the Nowpadah pans. The circumstances are as follow.

2. When I was in charge of the Ganjam District a Vettian of the Nowpadah pans, on a salary of Rupees 5 per month, was charged before the Principal Assistant Magistrate, Mr. Grahame, with having stolen 8 Annas worth of straw. The prisoner, I believe, defended himself by stating that while he was having the straw carried by coolies from one platform to another, under the orders of the said Narasingabhan, it being midday the coolies refused to carry it to the appointed place, but threw it near his house which lay on their way, and that the Salt servants through spite had got up the case against him. When Narasingabhan and another Station Assistant were examined in the case the former denied having given the Vettian any order to remove the straw. The prisoner, however, having brought forward one or two witnesses to say that Narasingabhan did give him the orders the case was dismissed. These witnesses, I believe, were examined behind Narasingabhan's back. The Principal Assistant Magistrate, Mr. Grahame, made a remark in his Calendar that Narasingabhan had committed perjury in the case, and sent me a copy of it. It certainly did not appear to me that the evidence brought by the prisoner against Narasingabhan was of so conclusive a nature as to justify the remark made by the Principal Assistant Magistrate. However, in deference to the Proceedings of his Court I sent a Memorandum to the District Gazette, exchanging Narasingabhan with the Assistant at the Itchapore pans. The latter official expressed his great unwillingness for the change, and meanwhile Narasingabhan brought some respectable persons before me to satisfy me that the witnesses who had given evidence against him were his bitter enemies. He further stated that as there was some straw on the platform at the time referred to in the Proceedings there was no necessity for him to have given any order for straw to be taken there, and that if the witnesses for the Vettian had been examined before him he would have proved the same. I felt satisfied with these statements and wrote a takeed that he should remain where he was, pending any further orders. This took place two weeks before I left the district. After I returned from leave I was put in charge of special duty on Famine Relief works, and from that appointment I was transferred to Chingleput on promotion. I could not, of course, anticipate that Narasingabhan would commit such irregularities as have now been brought to notice.

3. With further reference to this man Mr. Grahame, in paragraph 9 of his report, remarks "One of the Salt Vettians had been accused of stealing some of the straw collected for thatching the heaps of salt. He called Narasingabhan as a witness in his defence. After examining Narasingabhan I was of opinion that he had given false evidence, and recorded my opinion to that effect in my judgment. The Deputy Collector D. V. Narasinga Row was in Court when I examined Narasingabhan. I told him what I thought. He agreed with me." Now, as stated in paragraph 2 of this letter, the witnesses called by the Vettian to prove that he had removed the straw from one platform to another on the orders of the Station Assistant Narasingabhan were not examined in the presence of that official, but on a separate day that the Court was adjourned, and when neither he nor I was present, so there was no room to form an opinion whether his mere denial was false or not; consequently Mr. Grahame could not have told me that the evidence given by Narasingabhan was false, nor did I express any agreement with him. His memory is really at fault. I did not know his opinion till I saw his calendar in the case, which was sent to me some days after. I certainly did not tell Mr. Grahame that I would not allow Narasingabhan to remain at Nowpadah in consequence of what had occurred during the trial of the case, and of other things that I knew of Narasingabhan. I attended the Principal Assistant Magistrate's Court at his request, and my impression at the time was that some of the Salt servants must have got up the case against the Vettian through spite.

4. In paragraph 40 Mr. Grahame points out that I had deprived one Kurri Korladu and Dalijungam of their pans, and that no written order was issued to that effect about the former, but only about the latter. I beg to state that the two individuals above alluded to are really men of very bad character, and often used to interrupt our manufacture and cause loss to the State, as well as to the other manufacturers. One season I took a handful of salt from Kurri Korladu's pans, and expressed my opinion that all the salt of the kind of any manufacturer should be rejected and not allowed to be taken over the platform. The manufacturers being only of two castes, Reddikies and Pariahs, Kurri Korladu instigated them to leave the works for about two weeks, when the Collector, Mr. Forbes, ordered me to dismiss fifteen manufacturers who opposed my orders, and had the case inquired into by the then Acting Principal Assistant Collector, Mr. Lennon. Kurri Korladu was one of those dismissed. On another occasion he and Dalijungam joined together, and forging the signatures of several other manufacturers petitioned the Collector and the Board to the effect that the Salt Superintendent had thrown 2,16,000 maunds of salt into the water, and that the kudivaram of that quantity should be paid to them; the fact being that only a comparatively small quantity of inferior salt mixed with mud, and which was carried over the platform after the manufacture was discontinued, had actually been thrown into the water under the orders of the Collector. The report on the latter case is on the Board's records, to which reference can be made if necessary, when, in the first instance, I received the Collector's orders to dismiss Korladu and several other manufacturers. I did not take that extreme measure, but quietly set them to work, believing that matters might become worse. At the same time also, although he and Jangam had committed yet more serious irregularities, I did not deprive them of their holdings.

5. I now respectfully beg to state that Kurri Korladu is a Zenatdar or a pan-holder, and Dalijungam does not possess any pans. A reference to paragraphs 19 and 20 of my letter to the Collector of Ganjam, dated 26th February 1870, No. 41, which is on the Board's records, and a copy of which was furnished to me by the Sub-Secretary, dated 19th February last, or a reference to the Collector will prove this. Mr. Grahame's statement itself shows that I had not issued any orders to resume the pans of Korladu, though I used to intimidate him by threats of dismissal if he did not behave better. I did not even issue orders verbally on the subject, and there is a Circular Order passed by me to all the Superintendents in that district that my verbal orders should not be carried out. The Superintendents must have requested me not to allow these two persons to enter the pans for fear they might interrupt the process of the manufacture. I told him that I could not issue such an order about Korladu, but that Jangam should not be admitted and passed an order to that effect. In the Ganjam District I have established new pans and extended the old ones at all the divisions, which I distributed to the people; but I never was in the habit of depriving the ryots of their holdings, and there cannot be a single case of the kind on the records of the Collector. However, the salt pans in that district are not so valuable as in this district. The manufacturers leave the pans waste and sometimes give them up, and the Superintendents under the orders of the Deputy Collector get other ryots to work them.

6. I think it necessary that I should here afford a more detailed account of the character and services of Narasingabhan. I believe he was in the Salt Department of Nowpadah and Womeravilly pans for about eighteen years as a Golah Duffadar and Station Assistant Superintendent from 10 to 15 Rupees salary. The watching of the salt manufacture at Nowpadah pans was entrusted to his care under the orders of the Superintendent, Mr. Palmer, before the regular Police was introduced and previous to my joining the district. For several years since he was employed in assisting the Police officers in detecting cases of theft. During the day the thieves used to run away with salt, but Narasingabhan being well acquainted with all the people in the neighbourhood of Nowpadah was able to identify the thieves from a distance and point them out to the Police. I believe there are some reports to this effect on the records of the Ganjam Salt Deputy Collector's office. On this account the people used to fear him more than anybody else. With regard to salt duties he is a man of great experience, and possesses a practical knowledge of the subject. He used duly to carry out my orders in improving the structure of the beds and quality of salt, and he would manifest great interest in any other work entrusted to his care. He used to store large quantities of salt every year and have it nicely covered, so that it might not be damaged during the monsoon, and there must be some salt now at Nowpadah stored by him. He is a man of extraordinary ability, and not only conducted himself well under my orders but was very popular among all classes of people; otherwise hundreds of people would not have followed him, as stated by Mr Grahame, when he was committed to the Court. I could not recommend him for promotion solely because he was not a *passed* candidate.

Vide paragraph 8.

7. Notwithstanding the high opinion thus entertained of his character it is necessary for me to remark that about six or eight years ago there was a case before me in which the Superintendent of Nowpadah pans had made away with some salt in selling two heaps, showing a large wastage in one and an excessive quantity in the other. Two of the witnesses for the defence stated that a mistake had occurred in storing. I did not believe the statement and Narasingabhan was also called as a witness in the case when he denied any knowledge of a mistake having occurred. It struck me that Narasingabhan, being a man of influence at the place, might have assisted the Superintendent in getting up the above two witnesses, and that he might possibly have combined with the Superintendent in the matter. There was nothing to prove that he had done so; but to keep him on his guard and to make him understand that he should not think too much of his abilities, but that I would have him punished like other persons in case he should commit any irregularities, I thought it better to make a note of my suspicion in the report though I could not recommend any punishment to be awarded him. However, I removed him on that occasion to another set of pans, and the Collector, Mr. Carmichael, dismissed the Superintendent and the other Assistant. Afterwards, when on appeal the Board of Revenue ordered the two accused parties to be reinstated, I transferred Narasingabhan again to Nowpadah. Since then, and during the whole period of Narasingabhan's service, there has been nothing on public records to show that he is a man of bad character.

8. As I have rendered the necessary information called for by Government I beg to offer a few remarks only on paragraphs 29 and 30 of Mr. Grahame's report, and hope that I may be pardoned for the same.

9. In paragraph 29 Mr. Grahame, looking to the monthly and fortnightly sales of a portion of the year 1872, from March to July, and the remittances from 3rd January to July, points out that the sales were steady before the theft began and since began to decline from 64,094 to 2,347 Indian Maunds, and that likewise the remittances fell off from 1,00,000 to 42,000 Rupees, and then ceased altogether in June and July.

10. And again in paragraph 30 the same officer, pointing out the monthly and fortnightly sales of the year 1872 in each month from March to July, and of the corresponding period of three previous years, states that there is an extraordinary falling off in the sales, and that the figures would speak for themselves. From these statements the Collector, the Board, and the Government presumed that the smuggling reported to have taken place had affected seriously the sales at Nowpadah. I beg most respectfully to annex copies of Mr. Grahame's statement marked A, C, D, E and G, adding thereto the sales of twelve months of that year in which smuggling took place and of the preceding years with my remarks thereon.

11. It will be observed from the statements in question that although there is a falling off, as usual, in some of the months of the year in which the salt was smuggled yet taking the whole sales of the twelve months there is an increase of 82,247 maunds to the average sales of the previous and subsequent years as shown in the Statement F under the head of Faslis 1280 and 1282. Likewise an increase of 26,143 maunds will be observed on referring to the average sales of the corresponding period of the past three years in Faslis 1278, 1279 and 1280 of the same statement; consequently it is perfectly clear that the sales were not affected owing to the smuggling suspected by Mr. Grahame. Referring to the total sales of the year 1869, or Fasli 1278, it will be seen that the sales were higher than those of any of the subsequent three years; and yet from Mr. Grahame's own figures in Statement E the monthly sales for a portion of the year show a falling off of 40,919 maunds lower than those of the year 1872, or Fasli 1281, in which salt is suspected to have been so largely smuggled; while stated in Mr. Grahame's report that the *sales in* 1869 *were small in comparison with* 1870-71. On the whole, carefully looking to the statements adverted to above, it will appear that there was no falling off in the Home or retail and inland sales in the year of this alleged smuggling. Moreover, the quantity of salt detected in twenty villages by the Police was only 1,200 Indian Maunds. I therefore respectfully leave it to the higher authorities to decide on further consideration whether after all it is probable that any considerable quantity of salt was smuggled at the Nowpadah pans during the year 1872.

12. In the Ganjam District the sales sometimes rise very high and sometimes fall very low. This depends upon the season when Brinjaries enter the district to purchase salt. This will be illustrated on perusing the sales for a series of years.

13. On certain occasions, when there was a great variation in the sales for more than one lakh of Rupees, explanations were rendered on different occasions which can be traced out from the records of the Board's office, as well as from those of the Deputy Collector's office of that district.

14. With regard to the falling off and cessation of the remittances I beg to point out that the sales are generally high from December to April of every year, and the sales for the remaining months will not be equal to one month's sales in the months between December and April; so there will be no remittances at all from June to November or December again, and the falling off or the cessation of the remittances is not considered to be the result of the great smuggling reported to have taken place. Mr. Grahame seems to have submitted a comparative statement showing the remittances from January to July for a portion of the period in each year, *i. e.*, from the year 1867 to 1871. I have not received a copy of that statement, but if he had prepared one to show the remittances of twelve months in each year I am confident he would have been satisfied that the salt proceeds of the year in which the smuggling supposed to have taken place were larger than in the *two previous years* or in the *subsequent year*.

15. When we refer to the sales of the Nowpadah pans it will be fair to take the sales at Womerayilly pans also, for they are close to one another and the merchants resort from one pan to another for several reasons (as at Homes' Garden and Madras in this district) which I think unnecessary here to assign. But, however, I beg to point out that the sales of the Ganjam and Itchapore pans appear to have fallen in the year of the alleged smuggling at the Nowpadah pans; but it is not to be supposed that thefts at Nowpadah pans could affect the sales of the pans at a distance of 80 and 80 miles off without diminishing the Home or inland sales at that spot. It is well known that there have been great restrictions for some years past against the Ganjam and Itchapore salt being exported to the Central Provinces through the Regulation districts of Bengal, consequently the sales are declining at those pans, and thus the decreases in the sales at the above pans can be accounted for without any reference to smuggling at Nowpadah.

16. In some years, when the stock at the Ganjam and Itchapore pans is exhausted, the merchants then alone resort to the Nowpadah pans.

17. In paragraph 81 of Mr. Grahame's report it is stated, "had the system of passes been in force the chances are that a large quantity of the salt stolen this year would never have left the district but have been stopped and seized," and he recommends that passes, according to the form shown in the margin of his report, should be introduced. I beg to state that the form in question is already in force up to date, and is prepared in triplicate. Two passes are given to every merchant who goes out of the platform with any quantity of salt. He delivers one to the Police at the gate, another is taken with him to cover his salt, and the third remains in the book, so that every merchant is aware that he must have a pass to cover his salt in transit. Of course there were no Chowkies or a separate establishment to examine the rowannahs even when the Rowannah system was in force. I believe there were Chowkies before the Sawer was abolished.

18. There are several other points on which I thought of offering a few observations, but could not take the liberty of doing so without the permission of the Government.

19. I beg to apologise for the delay, which is mainly to be attributed to the constant heavy nature of my duties in the important post I am now holding and getting returns and accounts from the Board and the Ganjam District.

ENCLOSURES No. 2 and 3.—Statements.

From R. DAVIDSON, Esq., Acting Collector of Ganjam, to J. GROSE, Esq, Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Chetterpore, 22nd May 1874, No. 1,290.

WITH reference to the Board's Proceedings of the 4th December 1873, No. 2,474, I have the honor to forward, for the Board's information, copy of a letter from Mr. Grahame, dated the 2nd instant, with an enclosure from Mr. Thompson, explaining, with reference to the order of Government, dated 23rd October 1873, No. 1,151, his conduct in connection with the Nowpadah salt frauds.

2. I am not in a position to offer an opinion regarding the character of Mr. Thompson's explanation, as I was not in the district at the time when the frauds occurred; but in regard to Mr. Grahame's suggestion, that a duplicate copy of all correspondence relating to Salt matters should be furnished to him, I beg to remark that, unless it is the intention of Government to transfer from the Collector to the Principal Assistant the responsibility connected with the manufacture of salt in the Sub-Division, I fail to see that by the adoption of Mr. Grahame's suggestion any compensating advantage would be attained for the extra work which would be thrown on the Salt Deputy Collector, whose correspondence would be doubled at the cost of an increased establishment, and who would labor under the disadvantage of having two masters with, perhaps, conflicting orders to obey instead of one. What appears to me to be required of the Principal Assistant is that he should visit the salt manufactories within his division from time to time, make suggestions, report any irregularities that he may discover, and exercise a general supervision over the works, and if he does this there is very little likelihood of any systematic fraud going undetected in his division.

3. With reference to paragraph 3 of the Board's Proceedings under reply, I beg to enclose copies of the decisions in appeal passed by the Sessions Judge in the criminal cases relating to the Nowpadah salt frauds. No other Proceedings than those now submitted have been received from the Sessions Judge. All that can be gathered from them is that the evidence against the prisoners was considered by the Judge to be either insufficient or unreliable, hence the reversal of the sentences.

4. Referring to paragraph 5 of the Proceedings I beg to enclose copy of my Salt Deputy Collector's letter, from which it will be seen that the protective works that have been deemed necessary are (1) the excavation of ditches around the platforms, (2) planting hedges round the same, (3) raising of watch-towers on the platforms to a sufficient height, (4) the excavation of moats around the pans, and (5) the substitution of movable bridges for the existing open pathways to the platforms.

5. The excavation of ditches round the platforms is being effected, but the question of hedging the platforms which have ditches is at present in an undetermined state. It was originally proposed to plant prickly-pear around all the platforms at Nowpadah; but with reference to the Board's Proceedings of the 10th ultimo, No. —, I have now instructed the Deputy Collector only to plant it round such platforms as have no ditches. I have asked the Deputy Collector to state whether the hedges in addition to ditches are absolutely necessary to afford adequate protection, and have called upon him also to submit his propositions on the subject. Under any circumstances the ditches will have to be properly deepened and kept in thorough order.

6. The heightening of the watch-towers is also in progress.

7. As to the moats round the pans the Soorla pans have already been provided with a moat all round. There is also a channel round the pans at Womeravilly, and a proposal to widen and deepen it is now under consideration. The Ganjam and Nowpadah pans cannot possibly be surrounded by a moat unless they are concentrated, an arrangement which, however desirable, would be a work of no slight difficulty; but the question of this concentration may well lie over until we see what effect the lately enhanced prices of salt will have on the sales at Ganjam and Soorla. The Board are aware of the difficulty of concentrating the manufacture of salt at these pans, for, in their Proceedings of the 10th ultimo, the Board observed that it was impossible to concentrate the Ganjam pans.

8. The construction of movable bridges in lieu of the pathways to the platforms has been undertaken and it will be duly prosecuted to completion.

9. As to the efficient guarding of the pans during the manufacturing season arrangements have been made to employ Samastanam Paiks drafted from the Goomsur Taluq in addition to the Salt Preventive Establishment.

10. The question of improving the position of the Salt Superintendents and their establishments is a very important one, and it has received my best attention. The following are the suggestions which I have to offer for the attainment of that desirable object.

11. I consider it essential that the salaries of the Salt Superintendents should be raised, and I think that were the following scale adopted it would place the department on a highly satisfactory footing at a very moderate outlay considering the advantages which the change will secure. I would increase the pay of the

			Rs.	Increase.
Ganjam Superintendent	from Rs.	85 to	175	90
Itchapore	do.	,, 85 to	125	40
Nowpadah	do.	,, 125 to	200	75
Womeravilly	do	,, 100 to	150	50
		Total..		255

12. The Salt Deputy Collector proposes, with reference to the existing salaries, to give 150 to the Ganjam and Rs. 175 to the Womeravilly Superintendents, but the work at Ganjam is of a more difficult and arduous nature than at Womeravilly owing to the pans at Ganjam being inconveniently scattered over a large area; besides which Ganjam is disadvantageously situated as regards the insalubrity of its climate. I think therefore that the Ganjam Superintendent should receive Rupees 175 and the Womeravilly man Rupees 150 per mensem.

13. The pay also of the Station Assistant Superintendents should, I think, be materially raised. Their present pay is insignificant when contrasted with the very heavy and responsible duties they have to perform, and which in point of fact are little less important than those discharged by the Superintendents. I would therefore suggest that their pay should be doubled as shown below:—

1st Class from Rs. 25 to Rs. 50.
2nd do. do. ,, 20 to ,, 40.
3rd do. do. ,, 15 to ,, 30.

14. The Deputy Collector proposes the employment of an additional Assistant Superintendent at Womeravilly, of an additional Shroff at Nowpadah on Rupees 10, and of an Attender on Rupees 8 at each of the gullies. I think these requests are reasonable and accordingly support them, and I entirely agree with the Deputy Collector in thinking that the Gully Smith should receive batta in the same way that the Deputy Collector's Clerks do. The Smith is constantly on the move, as his services are continually needed at the different gullies, and it is but fair that he should be paid batta.

15. The Deputy Collector's proposal to increase the pay of his 1st and 2nd Clerks, and to permit them to draw mileage in addition to batta, does not commend itself to me, as I do not think a sufficient case has been made out in their favor.

16. I append a statement showing the Salt Establishments as at present existing, and as proposed. It will be seen that the financial result of my proposals is an increase of Rupees 5,484 per annum over the present cost; but I apprehend that the advantages which will accrue from the adoption of the more liberal scale of remuneration which I have suggested will more than compensate for the increased expenditure on an establishment through whose hands nearly half the revenue of the district passes, whose duties are arduous, responsible and unpopular, and whose honesty is sorely tried, as was lately evidenced in the Paloor and Nowpadah frauds.

17. The Salt Deputy Collector's head quarters have been transferred to Nowpadah, and as there is already an excellent Government building at Nowpadah suitable for the office of the Deputy Collector there is no necessity to construct a new one. If any additions are found to be necessary they can be made in due course of time. While on this subject I beg to point out that the G. O., dated 23rd October 1873, No. 1,151, Revenue Department, on which the Board's Proceedings under reply were passed, makes no allusion to Mr. Master's recommendation contained in paragraph 10 of his letter, dated 28th February 1873, No. 447, to allow the Deputy Collector to draw travelling allowance at Rupees 4 per diem instead of Rupees 3, and to permit him to draw it permanently subject to the fourteen days proviso. The Board to some extent supported this recommendation in paragraph 13 of their Proceedings, dated 16th July 1873, No. 1,296. I beg strongly to reiterate the above recommendation, as some slight compensation to the Deputy Collector for the discomfort he will experience in having to live more constantly at Nowpadah than he has heretofore done.

Enclosure No. 1.

From W. F. GRAHAME, Esq., Acting Principal Assistant Collector, to R. DAVIDSON, Esq., Acting Collector of Ganjam, dated Chicacole, 2nd May 1874, No. 98.

I have the honor to return the bundle of papers connected with the Nowpadah frauds as requested in your letter of 21st April. They would have been returned sooner, but that Mr. J. J. Thompson, Tahsildar of Chicacole, asked me to submit an explanation from him with reference to the severe censure passed on him by Government when reviewing the Board of Revenue's Proceedings on the frauds in question. This explanation of Mr. Thompson was handed to me only this week. I forward it to you for submission to Government, through the Board of Revenue, if you think fit to submit it. Mr. Thompson points out that when the Nowpadah frauds were going on he was engaged in the investigation of the Paloor frauds and on other duty, and that he was ill with fever contracted from exposure when on duty. I am of opinion that Mr. Thompson is physically unfit for the post of General Duties Deputy Collector or Salt Deputy Collector, especially in Ganjam, in which district there is so much travelling to be done. He is fit for the post of Treasury Deputy Collector.

2. With reference to paragraph 2 of the Board of Revenue's Proceedings I have to point out that Narasingabhan was not removed by order of the Collector. His removal was gazetted by the Salt Deputy Collector; the counter order was a departmental order.

3. From Mr. Master's Memorandum I gather that he intended me to submit any remarks I might wish to make on the censure passed on me by the Board in paragraph 15 of their Proceedings, No. 1,296, of 16th July 1870, and by Government in paragraph 5 of G. O., No. 1,151, of 23rd October 1873. With all respect to the Board I beg to submit that I have not been so careless as they imply. Paragraph 2 of Standing Order, No. 200-1, is practically a dead letter, and must always remain so so long as it continues to be the rule that Sub-Collectors receive no returns, reports or information from the Salt Department. The Salt Deputy Collector communicates directly with the Collector, and to the Collector are submitted returns and reports from all gullies both sub-divisional and others. The Sub-Collector is never informed of what is going on at the pans when the manufacture is to begin or to cease, what is the dittum for the gullies in his division, or any other information. It is under such circumstances impossible for him to exercise "supreme and general control" over the salt pans in the Sub-Division. This has been the case in the three districts I have served in, and in Ganjam Departmental orders from the Salt Deputy Collector to his subordinates were not submitted to the Collector until I gave* orders that a copy of every Salt Departmental order should be submitted to the Collector. As regards myself I have more than once in every year since I came here visited the salt pans in my division, examined the treasury and cash and stamps, inspected the pans and salt platforms, and on several occasions made suggestions which were not attended to. I first visited Womeravilly and Nowpadah in May 1871, when Mr Carr was Collector. I pointed out to him various points on which the Board's orders were neglected, and he gave orders on the subject. A few months after that the scarcity of 1871-72 came on us and absorbed to itself all our attention, and that was not over when the Nowpadah frauds were discovered. I have more than once pointed out that the Board of Revenue's orders were being disregarded, but to put in proper order the pans in [illegible] of money and considerable time. At the same time had the pans and platforms [illegible] frauds would and would have taken place. They were, as Mr. Master observes, "the result of a [illegible] general supervision could have had but little effect." To have entirely prevented them it would have been necessary to know first how they were going to be carried out; and, secondly, for the Sub or Deputy Collector to have remained at Nowpadah for over two months, and to have watched the pans all that time.

* When Acting for Mr. Master in 1872

4. With reference to paragraph 3 of the Board of Revenue's Proceedings, No. 2,474, of 4th December 1873, I have to inform you that, except the judgments in appeal forwarded to Mr. Master, I have received no communication on the subject from the Sessions Judge. I have never received any Proceedings from him reviewing all the cases as a whole. I think he was of opinion that one witness† to an overt act was not sufficient to justify a conviction under the circumstances, considering that the witnesses were either informers or Policemen, who by their own confession had been guilty of neglect of duty. The Sessions Judge in several places remarked, that it was clear that several other persons were present whose evidence might have been and was not taken, and asked why A, B, C, D, etc., were not examined. Now each of these possible witnesses was in custody awaiting trial for the very same offence. It is quite clear what sort of evidence they would have given.

† There were not many witnesses, and it seemed impossible to get more than one witness to any one overt act. This was partly owing to the inability of the witnesses to give the dates of the various occurrences.
(signed) W. F. G.

5. The present salaries of the Salt Superintendents of Womeravilly and Nowpadah are Rupees 100 and Rupees 125, respectively. The average receipts for salt at Nowpadah for the last three years have been over 5½ lakhs and at Womeravilly over 3 lakhs, and the receipts will probably rise. Considering the disagreeable stations at which they are posted, the onerous nature of their duties, the peculiar temptations to which they are subjected, and the large amount of revenue which passes through their hands, I think the Nowpadah Superintendent would not be over-paid by a salary of Rupees 200, and the Womeravilly Superintendent by a salary of Rupees 150. At the same time I doubt if a man inclined to be dishonest would be restrained by the receipt of even a higher salary than I have named.

(True Copy.)

(Signed) R. DAVIDSON,
Acting Collector.

Enclosure No. 2.

From Mr. J. J. THOMPSON, Tahsildar, to W. F. GRAHAME, Esq., Principal Assistant Collector of Ganjam, dated Chicacole, 22nd April 1874.

I respectfully beg to submit an explanation in reference to the Order of Government, dated 23rd October 1873, No. 1,151, Revenue Department, prohibiting my re-employment in the capacity of a Deputy Collector, and beg you will kindly forward it to Government through the Collector with your favorable recommendation.

2. The Government were pleased to pass the above-mentioned order in connection with the Salt frauds of Nowpadah, because I was Acting Salt Deputy Collector at the time they were committed.

3. It will be seen from the following statement that at the time the frauds were practised at Nowpadah I was engaged on important duties in other parts of the district.

4. D. V. Narasinga Row's services having been placed at the disposal of the Hon. Mr. Thornhill on Special Duty, I was telegraphed to by the Collector to assume charge of the Salt Deputy Collector's office, and I accordingly proceeded by dawk to Itchapore and took charge on the 18th January 1872.

5. Mr. Thornhill and the Collector arrived at Itchapore in the meanwhile, and under their instructions I supervised the excavation of a [illegible] at Soorla intended as a Famine Relief work, and after having set the work a going in a few days I left the place for Ganjam on the 5th February.

6. Dr. Ratton arrived in the district on special duty at the beginning of February, and I was directed to give him my assistance on his tour from Ganjam to Chicacole, I was accordingly engaged with that gentleman as noticed in his report until the early part of March 1872.

7. Constant travelling since I assumed charge of the department threw my office work into a little arrears, to bring up which I had to remain a few days in Chicacole. I set out again to inspect the several gullies on the 22nd March, and on my arrival at Nowpadah I was given to understand that a theft of a considerable quantity of salt had taken place *from the pans* while the manufacture was going on. I held an investigation into the matter and forwarded the proceedings to the Assistant Superintendent of Police with a letter, dated 27th March 1872, No. 103, bringing to his notice the fact that the Police Inspector in charge of the pans, with 100 Policemen at his disposal, was not discharging his duty satisfactorily; this Inspector was ultimately dismissed, and the Assistant Salt Superintendent of the division from which the salt was stolen. I removed to Ganjam with the Collector's sanction; from Nowpadah I proceeded on the 27th March to Soorla and thence to Ganjam.

8. On reaching Ganjam I was told that a great deal of salt is smuggled from that gully into the neighbouring Zemindari estates, to prevent which I set about making very careful inquiries, and I proposed to the Collector and Captain Pickance, the Superintendent of Police, that a European Head Constable should be placed to watch the gully, and the suggestion was successfully adopted.

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9. The salt manufactured at Ganjam had been always far below the annual demand from the Bengal Presidency on that Depôt. The Collector therefore directed that I should take steps to have a larger quantity of salt produced at Ganjam in 1872.

10. For this purpose, and to put a stop to the illegal proceedings at those pans, I encamped at Ganjam till about the 20th April, and through my instrumentality the salt frauds at Paloor and Preyaga were detected. In consequence of my protracted stay in Ganjam I contracted the Ganjam fever and had to run into Chetterpore for medical treatment, where I was very bad until the end of April.

11. In the month of May I moved about in my weakly state and reported upon the clandestine manufacture of salt at Paloor and Soorla.

12. I had hardly finished my work at Soorla I was attacked with a relapse of the Ganjam fever and was obliged to dawk into Chicacole for medical aid. I suffered much from this relapse, and was disabled from travelling again until about the middle of June, when I proceeded to Calingapatam and held an inquiry into certain irregularities which took place at the Womeravilly gully; thence I went on to Nowpadah as soon as circumstances permitted, and I inquired into the salt frauds which were perpetrated at those pans, and submitted my proceedings to yourself and Mr. Master with my reports.

13. Thus during the few months I filled the office of Salt Deputy Collector in this district I am not conscious of having been inactive nor of having wilfully neglected my duties. I could not have done more than I did during my short tenure of office; in fact by my zeal for the service I suffered in health seriously.

14. I am a public servant of twenty-nine years standing, and during this period I always gave satisfaction in the various responsible situations which I have filled.

15. It is very hard that I should now, as my official career is coming to a close, be debarred from promotion at a time when the Government should take my long and good services into consideration and confer on me the promotion for which I was recommended by the Collectors of [illegible]

16. I am eligible for promotion to the post of [illegible] year according to the terms of the G. O., dated 1st February 1870. I beg under the circumstances that the Government will be pleased to take my case into their favorable consideration and cancel the prohibitory order passed in my case and grant me promotion before the year closes, for which act of justice I shall, as in duty bound, ever pray.

(True Copy.)

(Signed) R. DAVIDSON,
Acting Collector.

Enclosures Nos. 3 to 17.—Decisions in appeal passed by the Sessions Judge in criminal cases relating to Nowpadah Salt frauds.

Enclosure No. 18.

From R. DURMAROW, Deputy Collector in charge of Salt Dept., to R. DAVIDSON, Esq., Collector of Ganjam, dated Chicacole, 4th May 1874, No. 133.

With reference to paragraph 5 of the Board's Proceedings, dated 4th December 1873, No. 2,473, I beg to state that the protective works deemed necessary are as follow:—

1. Ditches round the platforms.
2. Hedges round do.
3. Watch-towers on do.
4. Moats round the pans.
5. Substitution of movable bridges for the existing open pathways to the platforms.

2. Ditches are being excavated round the platforms at Ganjam, Itchapore, and Nowpadah this year. Those at Womeravilly will be deepened soon.

3. *Hedges.*—There are already prickly-pear and bamboo hedges round the platforms at Ganjam. While protecting the platforms the prickly-pear does not spread. I would not therefore suggest any extirpation of the shrub. At Itchapore the platforms have bamboo fences, while those at Womeravilly have milk-hedge, but the shrub died in some places and in others it has not grown well, so the protection is not sufficient. I have therefore applied for orders to raise mud walls or to plant prickly-pear round the platforms—*Vide* my letter, No. 122, dated the 22nd ultimo. The platforms at Nowpadah had bamboo fences, which did not protect them. Sanction was given and funds placed at the disposal of the Superintendent for planting prickly-pear round the platforms, but in their Proceedings, dated the 10th ultimo, the Board said "prickly-pear may be planted where there are no ditches." As there are ditches round platforms 1, 2 and 3 I have stopped planting prickly-pear round them, pending your orders on the subject—*Vide* my letter, No. 128, dated 29th ultimo.

4. The watch-towers in all the gullies were not high enough to command the salt heaps on the platforms and the surrounding pans. Sanction was therefore obtained and funds placed at the disposal of the Superintendents to construct towers high enough. Those at Itchapore have been finished, as also a few at Ganjam, Nowpadah, and Womeravilly. The rest are being constructed and will be finished about the 20th proximo.

5. *Moats.*—There is already one round the Soorla pans dug out as a Famine Relief work in 1871 and extended 1872. I have proposed the Womeravilly gully round channel to be widened and deepened, which when completed will not only secure a good supply of brine for the pans but protect them—*Vide* my letter, No. 116, dated 13th June 1873. I believe the Range Officer is making out an estimate for the work. Nothing effectual can be done at Ganjam and Nowpadah without concentration. I would leave the pans as they are till I see what effect the new rates of salt duty would have on the sales at the gullies—*Vide* your foot-note on my letter, No. 38, dated 12th February last.

6. [illegible] ways to platforms 1, 2 and 3 at Nowpadah, and will be finished soon when I intend sending in estimates for similar bridges over the platform ditches at the other gullies.

7. The Womeravilly pans have three platforms. The salt revenue has averaged to 3,20,523 Rupees for the last five years, and was Rupees 3,87,544 in 1871-72,* Rupees 3,14,000 in 1872-73, and Rupees 5,14,416 in 1873-74. Thus the gully revenue is on the increase. There is always a great difficulty in obtaining brine for this gully, which has only one Assistant Superintendent. He has hardly time to look after the pans and see they are supplied with brine. I therefore propose another Assistant to be given to this gully on a salary of Rupees 15 a month.

* No sales for four months for want of salt.

There are only three Taluq Treasuries† in this district. The peishcush on the Zemindari and proprietary estates, and the Abkári and the other branches of revenue in the villages within a great distance from the gullies, are paid into the Gully Treasuries. Similarly cheques are issued on the treasuries for sums to be paid to the Department Public Works on account of works executed by them. Civil pensioners are also paid at the treasuries, which entails a heavy work on the establishments which are limited. I therefore propose an Attender on 8 Rupees a month to be appointed to each gully, who will be employed in sorting and arranging the gully records and thus be a great assistance to the Clerks who are over-worked. An Assistant Shroff on a pay of 10 Rupees a month is also required for the Nowpadah gully. The gully salt revenue is about Rupees 5,58,482. This added to the Zemindari peishcush, etc., paid into the gully treasury amounts to Rupees 7,00,000, but the treasury is allowed only one Shroff, while those at Chicacole, Goomsur, and Berhampore, into which no more than 3,00,000 Rupees are paid, have each a Shroff

† Goomsur, Chicacole, and Berhampore.

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and an Assistant, the former on 15 Rupees a month and the latter on Rupees 10. Besides the Gully Clerks are not half as many as those in the Taluq offices.

(1.) The duties of my charge require my constant travelling. The heavy office work which has to be got through, particularly in the way of making out estimates for the gully works and preparing accounts as soon as they are executed, not to speak of the current work, necessitates my Clerks accompanying me on my long tours. The range of sea-board we have to travel over is 112 miles, the distance from the first to the last gully in the district. There is no railway or canal communication. They therefore travel in carts. The charges are heavy and the tours are frequent, but the rates of batta allowed them are small. They were fixed some ten years ago when cart and cooly-hire was much cheaper than what it now is. The consequence is they either encroach much upon their monthly income, or are put to discomfort. My Head and 2nd Clerks receive 45 and 20 Rupees a month respectively. To enable them to travel with that ease and comfort which they stand much in need of I propose that their salaries be raised to 60 and 30 Rupees, with mileage given to the Clerks who travel with the Inspectors of Schools. The Head Clerk of the Salt Deputy Collector, Chingleput District, next to which the salt work of this district is heavier than that of any other district in the Presidency, draws 70 Rupees a month.

(2.) I take this opportunity to inform you that the Gully Smith who repairs the weighing machines has to travel as constantly as my office Clerks do, and beg you will be pleased to take into your favorable consideration my suggestion that he be allowed the same travelling allowance as the Clerks are. The machinery not being simple Gully Smiths have, as a body, been selected from among men of a superior professional skill. They travel in carts. There are altogether 53 machines of all kinds now in use at the gullies in this district where the sales are generally brisk, making their wear and tear greater. This necessitates the Smiths constant travelling, but he is allowed no travelling allowance.

(3.) There is a small building at Nowpadah for my office, which I think will do for the present.

8. Before proceeding to report as to the steps to be taken towards improving the position and pay of the Salt Superintendents in this district, with reference to paragraph 6 of the Proceedings [illegible]

(1.) Salt works are generally close to back-waters, where [illegible] Gully Police, and the salt ryots reside. They always get their articles of food from the neighbouring villages. The gully channels stink most fearfully after manufacture is closed and before they are cleared up for the next season. The work is by no means sedentary. Superintendents and their Assistants have always to be out, conduct sales, superintend the manufacture of salt and the execution of salt works chiefly in the hot weather, and in places where they cannot possibly have any shelter. Such are the stations where they toil.

(2.) As regards their duties I beg to observe that they are heavy, responsible, and multifarious, and leave them no rest unless they shirk. In the first place a good deal of their time is occupied in storing and giving out salt. They have to visit platforms and inspect the heaps daily, to examine the gully channels, main and branch, and to see they are in repair and tide water let in well concentrated, that salt beds are properly guarded against leakage, and in short that nothing but good salt is received. They have also to watch the gully swamps and pans, and see that no spontaneous salt is precipitated and salt-earth taken away. It is on the successful discharge of their duties that any increase in the sales depends, the same as in the Abkári and Customs department. Any indifference shown in the discharge of their duties at once leads to smuggling and results in loss of revenue. Besides, the temptations in the department are great, while the chances of detection are less. The duties which the Gully Superintendents and their Assistants perform at the unpleasant and shelterless stations, and the exposure which they cannot avoid, not only tell heavily on their constitution, but have rendered the service unpopular. Gully servants lose their sight sooner than those in the other branches of the public service do. They suffer from bowel complaints and ophthalmic diseases, and only those who have no chance of bettering their prospects elsewhere seek employment in the Salt Department. Superintendents on receipt of 100 Rupees and upwards a month would be very glad to leave the department as Sub-Magistrates and Deputy Tahsildars on less pay, but only men both of activity and bodily energy, and above all of moral courage to resist the temptations, can perform the work with any success. As a first step to secure men of the proper stamp I would raise their pay as shown in the following paragraph and make them take an oath to be prescribed they would receive no gratification whatever, and that they would do their work to the best of their ability and knowledge. As the wear and tear is greater than in other branches of the public service I would, as another step towards inducing men of better stamp to enter the department, relax the Pension rules in their case and give them half pension for eighteen years good service, provided they have spent the last ten in the Salt Department. At present few or no Salt Superintendents are taken into the other branches of the Revenue service on promotion. In order to raise their position some of them who have distinguished themselves by their zeal and interest in work may be appointed Tahsildars and Superintendents of Customs as vacancies occur.

9. The Ganjam Superintendent draws 85 Rupees a month. The average revenue of the gully for the last five years was 3,51,643 Rupees. It was 2,84,226 Rupees in 1871-72,* and 3,64,946 Rupees in 1872-73. This is a very old gully. The pans are not compact. They are scattered over a very large extent of land, with paddy-fields intervening. The gully work is therefore heavier than it should otherwise have been. I therefore propose his pay to be raised to 150 Rupees a month.

* No sales for five months for want of salt.

(1.) The Superintendent at Itchapore draws 85 Rupees a month. The gully revenue averaged to Rupees 2,50,713 for the last five years. That of 1871-72 was Rupees 2,49,554, while the collections in 1872-73 amounted to Rupees 2,76,702. The old pans here had been abolished and new ones opened in 1862. They are compact and surrounded by a ditch. There is no difficulty in obtaining brine. The soil is well suited to salt culture. A couple of months' work is generally sufficient for the production of the dittum. Rupees 125 a month would therefore

(2.) At Nowpadah the Superintendent draws 125 Rupees a month. The average revenue of the gully was Rupees 5,58,482. It was 6,45,288 Rupees in Fasli 1281, and 4,99,538 Rupees in Fasli 1282. This is the oldest gully in the district. The gully has been extended as the demand increased. It is here that frauds were and can be committed unless the work be very carefully performed. The villagers are, as a body, a very bad lot, and will not omit to steal anything that they can lay their hands on. The pans require to be vigilantly watched, and the gully work performed as carefully as possible. I therefore suggest the Superintendent's pay be raised to 200 Rupees a month.

(3.) The Womeravilly Gully Superintendent gets 100 Rupees a month. The revenue averaged to 3,20,523 Rupees. It was 2,51,960 Rupees in Fasli 1281,† and 4,04,784 in Fasli 1282. The gully had been abandoned and re-opened some twenty years ago. The revenue has since been on the increase, but sales had now and then to be stopped for want of salt. There is a great difficulty in obtaining brine. Unless the supply be carefully attended to salt enough to meet the demand will not be produced. I therefore propose the Superintendent's pay to be raised to 175 Rupees a month.

† No sales for four months for want of salt.

(True Copy.)

(Signed) R. DAVIDSON,
Acting Collector.

ENCLOSURE No. 19.—Statement showing the present and proposed Salt Establishments.

From R. DAVIDSON, Esq., Acting Collector of Ganjam, to J. GROSE, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Chetterpore, 27th May 1874, No. 1,311.

ABSTRACT.—Forwarding a copy of Mr. Thompson's Service Register.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.—Service Register.

THESE letters will be submitted for the orders of Government.

2. The former gives cover to the explanation of D. V. Narasinga Row, lately in charge of the Salt Department in Ganjam, called for by the Board in their Proceedings of 4th December 1873, No. 2,474.

The Deputy Collector enters into a lengthy explanation of his reasons for restoring Narasingabhan to his post at Nowpadah after he had been removed by his own (and not, it appears, by the Collector's) order. There seems to have been some misconception of what actually took place either on the part of Narasinga Row, or Mr. Grahame; and Narasinga Row was clearly under the impression at the time that Narasingabhan was not so unworthy of trust as he has since proved himself to be. The Board think his explanation may be accepted. In the latter part of the Deputy Collector's letter he adduces arguments to show that the loss of salt must have been much over-stated. It seems to the Board quite unnecessary at this stage to re-open that part of the question, but a copy of the Deputy Collector's letter will be communicated to the Collector of Ganjam for his information.

3. The second letter is from the Collector of Ganjam replying to the same Proceedings and forwarding letters from Mr. Grahame and Mr. Thompson. On a perusal of the appeal decisions of the Sessions Judge in the matter of the salt thefts it appears that the sentences of the Principal Assistant Magistrate were all reversed on the ground that the evidence was insufficient for conviction, and not on any technical ground; no point of law seems to have been raised, as was supposed by the Coll[illegible]ragraph 19 of his letter of 28th February 1873, No. 447, and no reference

4. The Collector's proceedings in regard to protective [illegible] round the platforms are properly efficient it may not be necessary to plant prickly-pear hedges in addition, but this is a matter which the Collector should decide as experience may dictate.

The protection of the entire pans by canals at Ganjam and Nowpadah would seem to be out of the question, at all events for the present.

5. The question of increasing the salaries of the superior salt servants is one to which the Board attach great importance, and the scale proposed by the Collector is not in their opinion too high. They have, however, called for reports from all Collectors of Salt Districts on the subject, and purpose submitting their proposals shortly. The Board also think the Deputy Collector's Clerks (paragraph 10) are deserving of consideration, but would rather give them mileage at the usual rates in addition to batta than increased pay. Some slight compensation for living at Nowpadah might be granted to the Deputy Collector, and the Board recommend the adoption of Mr. Master's suggestion as to travelling allowance at paragraph 10 of his letter, recorded in G. O., 23rd October 1873, No. 1,153.

6. The Collector's proposals at paragraph 14 meet with the Board's approval, and the sanction of Government to the increased establishment and grant of batta to the smith is requested.

7. Adverting to paragraph 5 of Mr. Grahame's letter the Board do not think that he has shown that it is at all necessary for a Sub-Collector to be furnished with copies of all letters and returns to enable him to exercise an effective supervision over the general management of the Salt pans within his division. The absence of such precise information is no excuse for allowing the Board's Standing orders to become a dead letter.

8. As regards Mr. Thompson's explanation, though he has in no way attempted to account for his extraordinary procedure in stopping the manufacture, or for his having failed to notice the falling off in the salt sales, the fact that he was about that time suffering severely from Ganjam fever contracted on duty has only now come to light, and the Board think that the orders of Government might be so far modified as to restrict the absolute prohibition against his future employment as Deputy Collector to the Salt and General Duty Departments.

(True Copies and Extract.)

Acting Sub-Secretary.

To the Acting Secretary to Government, Revenue Department,
with 19 original enclosures to be returned.

,, the Acting Collector of Ganjam.

,, the Collector of Chingleput, with 3 original enclosures, returned.

Exd. J. Tulloch.

16

16/3

16/4

Revenue Department. 17

No. 57

PROCEEDINGS of the MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Under date the 12 December ~~1874~~ January 1875

READ the following Proc of the Board of Revenue.

Passing orders on Collector's letter forwarding explanations from Dists Asst Coll Mr Graham & Dy Collector Mr Thompson, in connection with frauds in Salt Dept at Nowpadah in Ganjam Dt, & on explanation of Dy Coll Narasinga Row of certain irregularities permitted by him also in Ganjam Dt.

H. E. 20 July 1874 - No 1875.

The Government accept D. C. Narasinga Row's explanation of the reasons which led him to cancel the order transferring Narasinga to Ichapore. Let ~~there be no further proceedings~~ be better if appeal for filling and Enquiries to the Collr

Mr 8/12.

Dft 2/1st

More dept matter need not be noticed in Govt

Rec 1874 Dept

Board of Revenue,

MADRAS.

PROCEEDINGS, 20TH JULY 1874, No. 1,875.

Dept of Rev Public Works &c

Received 27 July 1874

Read 31-12 January 1875

JULY.

No. 1,875.

Proceedings in Salt Department—at Nowpadah in Ganjam District.—Orders passed on Collector's letter, forwarding explanations from Principal Assistant Collector Mr. Graheme and Deputy Collector Mr. Thompson in connection with —and on explanation of Asst Deputy Collector Narasingha Row of Chingleput District, of certain irregularities permitted by him when in former district. Collector's proceedings in regard to protective salt works approved. Sanction of Government requested to Collector's proposals for increasing Salt Establishment and for granting batta to Salt attached to Salt Department.

Sp 23 Rekd 73 Rs 264-8
Sp 24 Rekd 74 - 119 Rs

No 2874

~~as to the earlier order~~

2. His statement regarding Hari Horladu is inconsistent with the fact that the man had been deprived of the pans and had them restored by the Acting Deputy Collector, and from the circumstance of his having found it advisable to issue a Circular Order directing his subordinates not to carry out his verbal orders, it is to be presumed that Dy Collector D. V. Narasinga Row ~~not unfrequently~~ gave, orally, orders which mature consideration showed him to be irregular. The Govt. are unable to approve of such a mode of conducting public business.

3 ~~The Government accept ... Thompson's explanation ... are not prepared to reconsider their order.~~

Mr. Graham's ... [illegible]
Mr. Thompson ... [illegible]
the ... passes to ...
while I was at ...
... [illegible]
Vide para 5 of ... [illegible]

Moreover say the Govt. accept Mr. T's explanation; but are not prepared to reconsider their order
+ Mr. T is a Superannuated man in more ways than one & ... salt special ...

duties ~~...~~ working only talk of burdening the service for 9/10ths of the work of which he is unfit?

S.D.T.

[initials]

I wonder that the Actg. Secy. would think of the proposal & find a place for him amongst the accts. The Dep. Coll. Service must be treated otherwise — any ~~service~~ Dep. Coll. may be awarded with an easy treasury but & introduce an old man only fit for such work — wrong.

S.D.T.

[initials]

See para 4 of ... of his letter in the H.O.'s Progs. It seems that they have to travel constantly and are a superior class of workmen.

x under G.O. of 1870

XB

faces ^ ~~which incapacitated him for hard travelling and was also employed in other special work during the months when the frauds were being perpetrated, the prohibition against his being again employed as a Dy Collector will be restricted in the manner suggested by the Board.~~

4. The question of a higher scale of pay for superior salt servants has already been dealt with in G.O. dated 15 Decr. 1874, No. 156

5. The gully smiths may, under the circumstances explained by the Salt Deputy Collector, be allowed to draw batta at the same rate as the Dy Collector's clerks, but the Govt. are not prepared to sanction the latter being specially treated either in the matter of pay

pay or mileage allowance.

6th With reference to the Collector's remarks in para 7th of his letter, the Government remark that, under the views expressed by the Board in para 13 of their * Proceedings of the 16th July 1873. No 1296 regarding the duties of the Dy Collector and the increased communication in Sanjan, there seems no ground for transferring the Deputy Collector drawing a higher rate of travelling allowance, and as there is a Government building available for an office, he cannot be allowed to draw travelling allowance permanently, simply because Vanpadak is not a pleasant place of residence.

* recorded in G.O. 23rd Oct/73 No 1151.

1 Asst Supt at Umeravilly
1 Shroff at Nowpadah on Rs 10.
1 Attender at each gully on Rs 8.

7. The increased establishment proposed by the Collector is sanctioned.

To The Board of Revenue &c &c 18 Jany
The Accountant General

Gell