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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

Revenue DEPARTMENT

G.O. No. 1658	Press
B.P. No.	Mis.

Dated 14-11-1876 196 .

Not to be folded or roughly handled

1658/4

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
14th November 1876.

No. 203. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 11th October 1876, No. 2,555 :—

Read the following letter from W. LOGAN, Esq., Collector of Malabar, to C. A. GALTON, Esq., Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Calicut, 12th September 1876, No. 248 :—

Board's Procs., dated 31st July 1876, No. 1,939.
G.O., dated 15th August 1876, No. 1,102.

REFERRING to the papers marginally noted, I have the honor to enclose copy of a report from my Salt and Sea Customs Deputy Collector on the subject.

2. In order that a constant supply of salt may be kept up on this coast, it is absolutely necessary that large stores of it should be made at convenient points, because the places of manufacture are distant and communication with them is interrupted for a considerable portion of each year. These stores have hitherto been entirely in the hands of Government. It is proposed however to introduce the excise system and to leave the distribution to private individuals. The necessity for large stores will still exist, and it is obvious that if private individuals are to pay full duty on every maund, the moment it is imported they will require very large capitals indeed to pay the duty, and their money will be lying idly locke[illegible]eir salt investment all the time that their stores are full.

[illegible] referring, of course only to the t[illegible] foreign salt here.

Bombay salt obtain a certain amount of credit on deposit of securities bearing interest, and their capital does not lie idly locked up all the time the stores are emptying.

4. Referring to paragraph 2 of the Board's Proceedings, dated 31st July 1876, No. 1,939, and, with reference to the remarks in the enclosed report, I have the honor to suggest that, *as an experimental measure*, the storage rate may be fixed at 3 Annas per garce per month.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

From O. CANNAN, Deputy Collector in charge of Salt and Customs, Malabar, to W. LOGAN, Esq., Collector of Malabar, dated Calicut, 11th September 1876, No. 87.

* Board's Procs., dated 31st July 1876, No. 1,939.
G.O., dated 15th August 1876, No. 1,102.

WITH reference to your endorsements on the orders of the Board* and Government (herewith returned), I have the honor to state that the merchants who generally import salt, being questioned on the subject of paying duty on salt at the time of importation and of making their own arrangements for its storage, state that they will never be able to do so as the duty on salt imported in each vessel generally amounts to 3,000 or 4,000 Rupees, and, as they have no particular place for its storage, that their present rate of godown-rent at 2½ Annas a garce is itself exorbitant, and that any addition to it will discourage its importation as it will not give them profit.

2. The yearly collections on account of godown-rent on salt stored in the three temporary sheds, at the present rate, calculated on the actuals of the past nine months† which amount to Rupees 384-8-6, would be a little above Rupees 500. The cost of annual repair estimated at Rupees 75 per shed would be Rupees 225, and that of the proposed Police guard is Rupees 354,

† From December 1875 to the end of August 1876.

amounting together to Rupees 579. The present rate, therefore, may be expected to realize a sum sufficient to cover the said annual cost, but there will be no surplus for recovering the cost of the sheds as proposed in your letter to the Board embodied in G.O., dated 12th April 1876, No. 504, and to recover the cost of construction, which amounts to Rupees 1,039-14-9, the present godown-rent may be raised by 1½ Annas and fixed at 4 Annas per garce. The collection at this rate, calculated on the actuals of the past months, may probably be expected to realize a little over Rupees 800, and will leave a surplus of about Rupees 250 per annum after meeting the annual expenditure, which may be applied towards recovering the cost of construction.

The Superintendent's report on the subject is herewith submitted.

(True Copy.)

(Signed) W. LOGAN,
Collector.

The Collector now proposes that godown-rent at the rate of 3 Annas a month per garce should be charged upon salt bonded in the Government warehouses.

2. At present there are in Malabar three sheds which have been recently constructed for the purpose of storing salt imported by private traders and kept in bond pending the payment of duty. The aggregate cost of these sheds amounted to Rupees 1,040, and it may be assumed that they will last for three years. Each shed will apparently contain [illegible] alt, and the average quantity stored in each throughout the year [illegible] 00 garce. Upon this quantity a rent of [illegible] month would [illegible] will be necessary to fix a higher rate. The annual charge for guarding the sheds [illegible] will be Rupees 354,* or Rupees 118 a piece, or about 9¼ Pies a month per garce. The monthly godown-rent per garce would thus amount to about 1 Anna 7 Pies, which rate would probably be sufficient to recoup Government for all the additional expense involved in providing storage.

* G.O., 9th June 1876, No. 770.

3. The Board, however, observe that the sheds which have been erected so far are situated within the enclosure of the Custom-house at Calicut, and the cost of guarding is therefore much less than it may be expected to be in other localities in which it may hereafter become necessary to provide warehouse accommodation. Although therefore the rate proposed by Mr. Logan, namely, 3 Annas a garce a month, would seem to be unnecessarily high for Calicut, it will probably be found insufficient elsewhere. It is, of course, desirable that one uniform rate should prevail throughout the district, and as the Board, upon the information at present before them, consider that the rate now proposed for Calicut is a fair average rate for the district, they recommend that it be sanctioned.

4. The Board take the opportunity to direct attention to paragraph 83 of the report of the Salt Commission upon the supply of salt to the districts of the West Coast. It will be observed that the Commissioners for cogent reasons recommend that bonding in Government warehouses be discouraged and as far as possible limited.

(True Copies and Extract.)

(Signed) E. GIBSON,
Acting Sub-Secretary.

1658/2

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
14th November 1876.

No. 204. ORDER THEREON, 14th November 1876, No. 1,658.

Separate Revenue, No. 15.
Customs.

THE Government sanction the levy of a godown rent at 2½ Annas a-month per garce as an experimental measure. They observe that the Board have, in estimating the charges to be covered by the godown rent, omitted to [illegible] account the annual cost of maintenance of the sheds at Rs. 75 each.

2. The Government do not approve of the system of prepayment of duty proposed by the Madras Salt Commission for reasons stated elsewhere and approved by the Government of India, and have strong objections to the passing of the Square-rigged Vessels Bill.

(True Extract.)

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

To the Board of Revenue.

Exd. J. W. Fischer.

Govt. of India 1876 Collection

REVENUE.

THE BOARD OF REVENUE.

NOVEMBER.

No. 203-204.

No. 2,555.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE, dated 11th October 1876.

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3. I am referring, of course, only to the traders in foreign salt, because the traders in Bombay salt obtain a certain amount of credit on deposit of securities bearing interest, and their capital does not lie idly locked up all the time the stores are emptying.

4. Referring to paragraph 2 of the Board's Proceedings, dated 31st July 1876, No. 1,939, and, with reference to the remarks in the enclosed report, I have the honor to suggest that, *as an experimental measure*, the storage rate may be fixed at 3 Annas per garce per month.

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† From December 1875 to the end of August 1876.

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4. The Board take the opportunity to direct attention to paragraph 83 of the report of the Salt Commission upon the supply of salt to the districts of the West Coast. It will be observed that the Commissioners for cogent reasons recommend that bonding in Government warehouses be discouraged and as far as possible limited.

(True Copies and Extract.)

Acting Sub-Secretary.

To the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.

Copy to the Collector of Malabar.
" to the Inspector-General of Police.

Esd. A. Grubert.

G.O. 129 Jud. 5th Oct. 76 pp 91-92
Galle — 95-96
Trang — 138-139

Rev 1876 Dept
No 2409
No 1192

1876.

Board of Revenue,

MADRAS.

PROCEEDINGS, 11TH OCTOBER 1876, No. 2,555.

Desp 19 Oct 76

Encl.

Received 25

OCTOBER.

No. 2,555.

Salt—bonded in Government warehouses in Malabar District.—Recommending that godown-rent at 3 Annas a month per garce proposed by Collector to be charged upon — be sanctioned.

with order.

C. Jud. 5th Oct. 76 No 3 Encl. 5th