

227/ RH
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TAMIL NADU ARCHIVE

GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU

REVENUE DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.	1639	Press:
B.P. No.		Mis.
Dated	9-10-1878	197-

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Archives 1-5,806-24-2-78.

GC

MADRAS.

REVENUE

DEPARTMENT.

9th October 1878. No. 1,639.

Read the following paper:—

No. 94. Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 19th September 1878, No. 2,588.

Read the following letter from H. W. BLISS, Commissioner of Salt Revenue, to C. A. GALTON, Esq., Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Cuddalore, 3rd September 1878, No. 1,164:—

I HAVE the honor to request that the Board will be so good as to move Government to indent on the Secretary of State for 100 platform weighing machines by Messrs. Pooley and Co. or any other maker of eminence of the same description as have recently been supplied to the Bombay Salt Department, and as are in common use in nearly all Railway stations.

2. They are required to enable me to introduce at all Salt stations the system of check weightment which is particularly discussed in my letters marginally noted, and is alluded to in more or less detail in other communications from me which are before the Board, and which, as I think

No. 421, dated 21st June 1878, recorded in G.O., dated 19th July 1878, No. 1,100, Revenue Department. No. 965, dated 10th August 1878.

I have before said, I believe to be the most important reform required in the department. To procure the appointment of Preventive Inspectors at all Salt stations, whose principal, if not sole, duty it will be to make check weightments of a portion of all consignments of salt sold, will be a work of time in any case and may ultimately prove to be impracticable on account of the large expenditure which it will inevitably entail. But I can see no reason why, if they are provided with proper weighing machines for the purpose, Salt Superintendents should not at once be required to check all parcels of salt sold by their subordinates by reweighing, say, 15 per cent. of the bags. They will then be in reality what they are now only in theory responsible for the accuracy of the weightment of all salt leaving the platforms of their stations. In many Salt divisions I find the practice is to expect the Superintendent to conduct all sales. This has certainly, I think, been the tendency of the orders on the subject of the Board and Government, though I cannot lay hands on any distinct ruling to this effect. But the duties of Salt Superintendents are so multifarious and so often involve absence at a considerable distance from the neighbourhood of the platforms of their divisions that it is obvious that such an order as that they should conduct all sales could never be carried out save at great inconvenience to the trade, and with the certainty that many other duties of importance must in consequence be entirely neglected. If it were possible even to carry out such an order the result would still be that the sales would be unchecked; and that in each case the State would be dependent for its revenue upon the honesty of a single badly paid and uncontrolled subordinate. My view is that this should never be allowed. The duty of the weightment of salt is a purely mechanical one, calling for no great educational attainments and capable of satisfactory performance by any intelligent peon who is able and willing to see straight. I intend therefore on the one hand, with the permission of the Board and Government, to do all in my power to discourage sales by Superintendents, whose duties of general supervision are fully sufficient, even in the smallest divisions, to occupy their time, and to require weightments to be made as a rule by Assistant Superintendents and clerks; but to insist on the other in the most peremptory manner possible that all sales by whomsoever made shall be checked by the Superintendents themselves wherever Preventive Inspectors are from any cause not available for this duty. No fraud will then be possible without at least the combination of three persons, the clerk or Assistant Superintendent conducting the sales, the Superintendent who checks them, and the Police officer who sees both operations performed.

Railway

3. I do not think that even if attained as is possible when the che the Salt Superintendent, that is, w the gazetted officer in charge of th and in order to introduce any it is machines of such a kind as to ad merchants being put to the troi salt. None of the machines w of those I now ask for.

4. The price of those in u each laid down in India, as re Bombay Salt Department was Rupees 108-4-0 y letter, No. 75 dated 7th April 1878. The 100 machines I now ask for will therefore cost Rupees 10,825, for the provision of which sum I request permission to defer making proposals until I submit the Regular Budget of the current official year.

5. I enclose a separate memorandum of the points I wish particularly attended to in the construction of the machines.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

Memorandum of Points to be specially attended to in the Construction of Platform Weighing Machines required for use in Madras Salt Department.

THE machines to be of the same size as those supplied by Messrs. Pooley and Co. to the Bombay Salt Department, i.e., with platforms about 4 feet by 3½ feet, and to be so constructed that no difference can be made in the weight indicated by moving the load on the platform from one side or part of it to another side or part.

2. They must be furnished with weights sufficient to weigh up to half a ton. They must not be graduated to weigh cwt., qrs., or lbs., but to weigh Indian Maunds of 82½ lbs. Avoirdupois each, each maund being divided into 40 seers, and each seer into eight equal parts of 10 tola each.

3. If possible they must be constructed with sufficient delicacy to answer readily to a difference of load on the platform of 10 tola (about 4 ounces).

4. The graduated arm which carries the weights must be fitted with a rider of such a weight that if run out to the end of the arm it will by itself counterbalance a load on the platform of half a maund. The graduations should therefore extend on the arm from 0 to 20 seers, each of eight equal (clearly marked) parts of 10 tola.

5. With each machine should be supplied the following weights to be hung at the end of the graduated arm—

	L.M.D.
2 each to counterbalance	...
2 do. do.	...
8 do. do.	...
	... 2 } on the platform.

6. In the bottom of each weight two or three holes should be drilled to receive lead if the weights should require adjustment in consequence of loss of weight from rust or from any other cause.

7. The machines should be marked with the words "Madras Salt Department," and should be numbered from 1 to 100. Each weight and the movable parts of each machine should be stamped with the number of the machine to which they belong.

8. There should be some means of adjusting the machines when slightly out of order by a key.

9. The parts of the machines most exposed to wear (e.g., knife edges) should, if possible, be made easily removable by an ordinary fairly intelligent native mechanic. Fifty spare sets of all such parts should be sent out at the rate of one set to every two machines.

10. The catch to hold down the lever by which the machine is put into adjustment after the load is placed on the platform should not be of the shape usually used on Pooley's machine which is as shown in the margin, that is, is a hook with a counterbalance weight playing on a spindle so that it is self-adjusting after being knocked aside by the lever on the latter being pulled down. This catch is convenient enough when the lever is pulled down; but it



requires the use of two hands when it is de please the lever after the weight of the load on the platform has been taken. I therefo a fixed catch ² such as I have seen on Medhurst's Platform Machines with a hinge in  so that the latter will bend 2 or 3 inches to one side and ca. be slipped either into or out of the catch with one hand only.

(Signed) W. H. BLISS,
Commissioner of Salt Revenue.

SUBMITTED to Government with the request that the weighing machines may be obtained from England. Although the cost is great, the Board quite concur in thinking that the outlay is necessary to secure efficient check.

2. An indent is forwarded herewith.

(A true Copy and Extract.)

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

No. 95.

ORDER THEREON, 9th October 1878, No. 1,639.

Separate Revenue, No. 7.

Salt.

The indent received with this paper will be returned, through the Board of Revenue, to the Commissioner of Salt Revenue, whose attention will be called to G.O., 6th September last,

No. 1,458, Revenue Department. It seems to the Governor in Council that the machines now asked for will practically be of no use for weighing salt not bagged, and the matter will probably require reconsideration.

2. The suggestion in paragraph 6 of the "Memorandum of points to be specially attended to" to have holes drilled in the weights to receive lead seems likely to facilitate fraud, and such weights would be condemned in England on that account.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) L. A. CAMPBELL,
Under-Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue.

Exd. F. R. Bantleman.

Udairway

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE, dated 18th May 1878.

Read the following letter from H. W. BLISS, Esq., Commissioner of Salt Revenue, to C. A. GALTON, Esq., Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Bombay, 7th April 1878, No. 75:—

WITH reference to the Board's Proceedings, No. 900, dated the 2nd instant, I have the honor to state that the Board have somewhat misapprehended my design for a salt-weighing machine. The trunnions are merely intended to carry the weight of the scales when the machine is not in use, and to take the jar of loading and of discharge when it is in use. When it is loaded and it has to be ascertained whether the salt in the pan correctly balances the weight at the other end of the beam, the beam and dependent weights, &c., are intended to be lifted clear of the slings in which the trunnions and of the stands or tables on which the pan and weight platform, respectively, rest when the machine is out of gear or in process of being loaded or discharged. This will be effected by means of a lever, the fulcrum of which will be on one of the tripod legs, and the short arm of which will be furnished with a knife edge which will pass through the aperture B shown in the drawing which accompanied

Letter, dated the 20th March 1878, No. 43. my letter marginally noted, and will fit into the slot in the upper part thereof.

The long arm of the lever will be furnished with a chain whereby it may be held down until the correctness of the load of salt is ascertained. It will then be released and the knife edge relieved from all pressure until the pan has been emptied and refilled. The lever will be easily removable and spare ones will be supplied with each machine, so that when the knife edge requires repair it may be sent into district head quarters, or, if necessary, to Madras for the purpose at slight expense and trouble, thus securing far more accurate workmanship than can be expected from a travelling smith only occasionally visiting the salt stations, and in consequence not provided with such a superior equipment of tools and apparatus as it would be easy to furnish him with at his head quarters.

2. I much regret that I should not have made this clear before.
3. I will bear in mind the Board's wish that I should inspect Mr. Crawford's

machines, I may mention that I have been much struck with the simplicity, accuracy, and speed with which weighments are made and checked at the excise works near this place (Bombay).

5. Weighments are made with a steel yard which is cheap considering its workmanship, light and handy and easily adjusted, and are checked on a Pooley's platform weighing machine of a newer pattern than I think has ever been in use in Madras. The latter Mr. Pritchard assures me is quite accurate, no matter on what part of the platform the bags are placed, and it certainly appears to be so, so far as I can myself judge from the experiments I have made. The price of the former which is made in Bombay is Rs. 54-14-8, and of the latter (to weigh about half a ton) Rs. 108-4-0 inclusive of everything as laid down in India.

6. Mr. Pritchard has offered to let me have one of the steel yards, and I shall accept his offer and bring one back with me to Madras for trial at the Madras Cotars, as I think it very desirable to try as many different machines as completely as possible before the provision of any particular pattern, at what must eventually be a very large expense, is finally decided on.

7. I should like also to have one of the Pooley's platform machines in use here for trial in Madras, but Mr. Pritchard finds some difficulty in sparing me one; and its trial by us is perhaps hardly worth while as things are, as it is not, I think, well suited for anything but reweighment after sale—a system which is not in force in Madras. If, however, any such system should be introduced, as I have strong reasons for thinking to be most advisable at such places as Madras, Negapatam, &c., where the sales are large enough to warrant the expenditure necessary to secure a trustworthy agency to work it, independent of that by which the sales are conducted, this machine should be borne in mind.

THE Board approve the purchase of a steel yard.

(A true Copy and Extract.)

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

To the Commissioner of Salt Revenue.

Copy to the Accountant-General.

Exd C, Hoarth.

Railway

Revenue Dept^l

No. 25

1639
4

Proceedings of the Board of Revenue
Dated 19th Sept 1878.

Read the following

Correspondence Dept^l.

No. 1164.

From.

H. W. Bliss Esq.
Commissioner of Salt Rev.

To.

L. A. Galton Esq.
Agent to the Board
of Revenue.

Sir,

I have the honor to request that
the Board will be so good as to move
Government to indent on the Secretary of
State for 100 Platform weighing machines
by Mess^{rs} Porley & Co or any other maker
of eminence, of the same description as
have recently been supplied to the
Bombay Salt Department, and as
are in common use in nearly all
Railways

1878.
Board of Revenue,
MADRAS.

PROCEEDINGS, 18th May 1878, No. 1,355.

Encl.

Received

MAY.
No. 1,355.

Steel Yard — for weighing salt at Madras
— Approving the purchase of a —

Approved 19th.

Railway Stations.

2 They are required to enable me to introduce at all salt stations the system of check weighing which is particu-

larly discussed in my letter margi-

N^o 421 dated 21st June 1878 - nally noted and recorded in L.O. dated 19th July 1878 No 1100 R.D. N^o 9657 is alluded to in 10th August 1878

more or less detail

x With H.S.

Not received after 10th August

in other communications from me which are before the Board; and which, as I think I have before said, I believe to be the most important reform required in the Department. To procure the appointment of Preventive Inspectors at all salt stations, whose principal, if not sole duty it will be to make check weighments of a portion of all consignments of salt sold, will be a work of time in any case, and may ultimately prove to be impracticable on account of the large

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5
Large expenditure which it will inevitably entail. But I can see no reason why, if they are provided with proper weighing machines for the purpose, Salt Superintendents should not at once be required to check all parcels of salt sold by their subordinates by weighing (say) 15 per cent of the bags.

They will then be in reality, what they are now only in theory, responsible for the accuracy of the weighment of all salt leaving the platforms of their stations.

In many salt Divisions I find the practice is to expect the Superintendent to conduct all sales. This has entirely,

I think, been the tendency of the orders on the subject of the Board and Government, though I cannot lay hands on any distinct ruling to this effect.

But the duties of all Superintendents are so multifarious and so often involve

involve absence at a considerable distance from the neighbourhood of the Platforms of their divisions, that is obvious that such an order as that they should conduct all sales could never be carried out save at great inconvenience to the Trade and with the certainty that many other duties of importance must in consequence be entirely neglected. If it were possible, even to carry out such an order the result would still be that the sales would be unchecked and that in each case the state would be dependant for its revenue upon the honesty of a single badly paid and uncontrolled subordinate. My view is that this should never be allowed. The duty of the weighment of salt is a purely mechanical one, calling for no great educational attainments and capable of satisfactory performance

1629
6
performance by any intelligent person who is able and willing to see straight. I intend, therefore, on the one hand, with the permission of the Board and Government to do all in my power to discourage sales by Superintendents, whose duties of general supervision are fully sufficient, even in the smallest Divisions, to occupy their time; and to require weighments to be made as a rule by Assistant Superintendents and Clerks; but to insist, on the other, in the most peremptory manner possible that all sales, by whomsoever made, shall be checked by the Superintendents themselves whenever Preventive Inspectors are from any cause not available for this duty. No fraud will then be possible without at least the combination of 3 persons, the clerk or Assistant Superintendent conducting the sales, the

Suplt.

Superintendent who checks them and the Police Officer who sees both operations performed.

3. I do not think that even in this way such security to the Revenue can be attained as is possible when the check lies with an agency perfectly independent of the Salt Superintendent, that is with Preventive Inspectors directly subordinate to the Gazetted Officer in charge of the District. But any check is better than none; and in order to introduce any it is necessary that all stations should be provided with machines of such a kind as to admit of check measurements being made without the merchants being put to the trouble and expense of unbagging and rebagging their salt. None of the machines we have now answer this description. Hence the need of those I now ask for.

The

4. The price of those in use in the Bombay Salt Department was Rs 108.4-0. each laid down in India, as reported in my letter of 1878 dated 7th April 1878. The 100 machines I now ask for will therefore cost Rs 10,825 for the provision of which sum I request permission to defer making proposals until I submit the regular budget of the current official year.

5. I enclose a separate memorandum of the points I wish particularly attended to in the construction of the machines.

Office of the Commr of Salt Revenue in Cir-
cuit Calcutta } I have re
15th 1878 } H. W. Bliss
27th Sept 1878 } Commr of Salt Revenue

Submitted to Government with the request that the weighing machines may be obtained from England. Although the cost is great, the Board quite concur in thinking that the outlay is necessary.

is necessary to secure efficient clerk.

2. An Indent is forwarded herewith.

(True copy & photo.)

W. L. Allen
Secretary

To
The Secretary to Government Rd.
with Indent in quadruplicate
and copy of Memorandum and of
Board Res. 718 May 7 1905.

She

Memorandum of points to be spe-
cially attended to in the construction
of Platform weighing machines
required for use in Madras Salt
Department.

The machines to be of the same size as those supplied by Messrs. Poley & Co. to the Bombay Salt Department, i.e. with platforms about 3 feet by 3 1/2 feet, and to be so constructed that no difference can be made in the weight indicated by moving the load on the platform from one side or part of it to another side or part.

2. They must be furnished with weight sufficient to weigh up to half a ton.

They must not be graduated to
weight cwt, grs, or lbs, but to weigh
Indian Mounds of $82 \frac{2}{7}$ lbs. *Avoir du Poin*
each, each mound being divided
into 40 seers, and each seer into 8 *equal*

equal parts of 10 Colats each.

3. If possible, they must be constructed with sufficient delicacy to answer readily to a difference of load on the platform of 10 Solahs (about 4 ounces).

4. The graduated arm which carries the weights must be fitted with a rider of such a weight that if run out to the end of the arm it will by itself counter-balance a load on the platform of half a maund. The graduations should therefore extend on the arm from 0 to 20 suus, each of 5 equal (clearly marked) parts of 10 tolas.

5. With each machine should be supplied the following weights to be hung at the end of the graduated

graduated, arm.

2 each to correct balance $\frac{1}{2}$ }
2 " " " " 1 } on the
8 " " " " 2 } platform

6. In the bottom of each weight 2 or 3 holes should be drilled to receive lead if the weights should require adjustment in consequence of loss of weight from rust or from any other cause.

7. The machines should be marked with the word "Madras Salt Department" and should be numbered from 1 to 100. Each weight and the moveable parts of each machine should be stamped with the number of the machine to which they belong.

8. There should be some means of adjusting the machines when slightly out of order by a key.

9. The parts of the machines most exposed to wear (e.g. knife edges) should if

if possible be made easily removable
by an ordinary fairly intelligent
native mechanic. 50 spare sets
of all such parts should be sent
out at the rate of one set to every
2 machines.

10. The catch to hold down the
lever by which the machine is
put into adjustment after the
load is placed on the platform
should not be of the shape usually
used on Pooley's machine which
is as shown in the margin,

 that is, is a hook with a
counter-balance weight
playing on a spindle so that it is
self adjusting after being knocked
aside by the lever on the latter being
pulled down. This catch is con-
venient enough when the lever
is pulled down; but it requires
the use of 2 hands when it is
desired

¹⁶³⁹
11
desired to release the lever after
the weight of the load on the plat-
form has been taken. I therefore
prefer a fixed catch  such as I
have seen on Mollhurst's Platform
Machines with a hinge in the lever
 so that the latter
will bend two or three inches to one
side and can be slipped either into
or out of the catch with one hand
only.

N^o 1 H. W. Bliss
Commissioner of Salt Revenue

/True Copy/

Collectn
Ag. Secretary

all
Jy

1639
12

To
The Right Honble the Secretary of State
for India

My Lord,

1 We have the honor
to forward, for
compliance, an Indent
(in duplicate)
for Platform Weighing
Machines, required by
the Commissioner of
Salt Revenue, for use
at the Salt Stations
in this Presidency.

2 Column 12 of
the Indent particu-
larizes the points
which

See memo in B.O.
No: to the Secretary
to Govt. No 109/19
Sept 1875
Dec 1/78
Dec 1/78
4-6-9 "Salt Revenue" 1894

which the Commissioner
wishes particularly
to be attended to in
the construction of
the machines.

3. The cost is charge-
able to "Imperial" under
head "Salt."

4. The papers on the
subject are also enclosed.

Pro of York (in Current Journal No 166)
with.
Pro of York July 1878 No 199 201.

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To Secy of State

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

No. 4257

1639
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From Board of Revenue
Dated 19 Sept

1878

FOR ORDERS.

Circ:

Perhaps this
indent may
go forward but
the Commissioner
in writing his
letter of the 3rd
Sept - forwarded
21st these pro-
ceedings - had in
his view the idea
that

Shank W. Mills is
all doing right and
unweighting - but at
first it is perhaps needed
or will do little harm
to put the W. Machine
if not needed for check up
are for the right -
see para 8
Enclosed 2A

Rev. Secy of State "Circular" 1878 No. 1639

To Secy of State

would be bagged.

If all salt
and so dealt

into and put

into two-man

bags before leaving the place

from the present proposal

to be applicable and convenient

but as G. O. have negatived Mr. Bliss's suggestion

I think the Com^{rs}

attention should be called to the

bagging question -

These machines will practically be of

no use for weighing salt - not bagged.

Mr. Bliss's suggestion of holes in the weights will facilitate for

G. O. 6 Sept 1878
No 1458.

1539
15

on this head
it is just a question whether
the indent should be returned for
reconsideration
on this point

Y^{rs} M

9/10

such weights would be condemned in England on that account -

To Secy of Sta. to

Aug 27
FOR ORDERS.

For
P. D.

For W. Hobbs

C 28-9-78. REC 9-10-78.
M 2-10-78. R 9-10-78.
RC 2-10-78.
R 9-10-78.

Rev. Secy.

1639
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No 1639

Proceedings of the Madras Government
Under date the 9 October 1878

Read the following Pro-
ceedings of the Board of Revenue,
dated 19 September 1878 No 2588,
regarding Platform weighing Ma-
chines for the Salt Department.

The Indent received
with this paper will be re-
turned through the Board of
Revenue to the Commissioner
of Salt Revenue whose attention
will be called to G.O. 6th Septem-
ber last No 1458 P.D. It seems
to the Governor in Council
that the machines now ask-
ed for will practically be of
no

no use for weighing salt not
bagged and the matter will
probably require reconsider-
ation.

2. The suggestion in para-
graph 6 of the "Memorandum
of points to be specially at-
tended to" to have holes drill-
ed in the weights to receive
lead seems likely to facilitate
fraud and such weights would
be condemned in England
on that account.

J. M.

List from Orders.

Wm

Ind. Copy to the Board of Revenue on
14. Printed copy, Dec. 19. 1841

21/2
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1639
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E.O.

Platform weighing
machine for W. S. S. Co.
Department.

W. S. S. Co.

194 95-