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(3) Initials of the Referencer W. H. B.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

Revenue DEPARTMENT

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

727

Press
~~Mis.~~

Dated 1. 6. 1876 ~~196~~

Not to be folded or roughly handled

22/1

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
1st June 1876.*

No. 5. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 18th May 1876, No. 1,300:—

Read again Board's Proceedings, dated 1st May 1876, No. 1,142.

Read also the following papers:—

Proceedings of the Madras Government, dated 19th April 1876, No. 506,
Revenue Department.

ABSTRACT.—*Excise Duty on Spirits.*—Communicating to the Board of Revenue for report on certain points letter from the Government of India on the subject of —.

From R. J. MELVILLE, Esq., Acting Collector of Madras, to C. A. GALTON, Esq., Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated 15th May 1876, No. 159.

WITH reference to the Board's Proceedings, No. 1,142, of the 1st instant, I have the honor to submit a statement showing the effects of the enhancement of the issue and selling price of arrack in the outside limits of the Madras Abkari.

The actual sales up to 30th April last, excluding undrawn liquor, amounted to 20,294 $\frac{3}{4}$ gallons, and adding 4,500 gallons, which is the utmost that will be sold during the next two months, the total sales of Fasli 1285, excluding liquor undrawn out of the stipulated quantity, will be about 25,000 Imperial Gallons, or nearly 24 per cent. less than the average sales of the three previous faslis.

3. The Deputy-Collector remarks that this fall, though partially attributable to the present unfavorable season, is mainly due to the enhancement of the price of liquor from 3 Rupees to 3-8 0 per Imperial Gallon, and I entirely agree with him in so thinking. The inhabitants of the villages comprising the outside limits belong, as a rule, to the poorer classes, and, if prices are further raised, the consumption will still further be diminished.

4. The selling prices of arrack in Chingleput and the Madras outer limits are now equal, and any enhancement in the latter will lead to the smuggling of Chingleput arrack into the outside limits.

5. As regards the issuing price of arrack to the renters, I beg to point out that the renters' nominal profits, which amounted to 7 Annas and 2 Pies per gallon previous to Fasli 1285, have been reduced to 6 Annas.

6. The renters pay out of this profit the cost of the cartage of liquor from the distillery to the draw-out godown in the Deputy Collector's Office, and thence to the godown at the outside stations. They further bear all the wastage, leakage, and driage incurred in the outside godowns for which they also pay rent; all these expenses leave them a net profit of not more than 2 Annas per gallon.

7. Under these circumstances, I consider that the present issue price is high, and that it should not be enhanced.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
1st June 1876.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

Statement showing the Sales, &c., of Arrack in the outside limits of Madras for four Faslis.

	Government selling price per Imperial Gallon.	Renters' sel- ling price per Imperial Gallon.	Actual sales. Imperial Gallons.
	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.	
Fasli 1282... ..	2 8 10	3 0 0	35,569
" 1283... ..			33,655
" 1284... ..			30,127
" 1285... ..			25,000

MADRAS,
15th May 1876.

(Signed) R. J. MELVILLE,
Acting Collector of Madras.

MR. MELVILLE's letter will be submitted for the early orders of Government with reference to G.O., dated 19th April 1876, No. 506.

2. The existing leases of the Puttai arrack godowns in the outside limits expire at the end of the current fasli, and the Collector submits a draft notice inviting tenders for the lease thereof for the next three faslis with reference to his predecessor's opinion concerning in

for a period of three years instead of one as hitherto. The Board then upon called for information as regards the effect of the recent enhancement of the issuing and selling prices during the current fasli, the Board having at the close of last fasli raised the issuing price from Rupees 2-8-10 to Rupees 3-2-0 per gallon 30° under proof, whereby the profit to Government or excise was increased from Rupees 1-12-10 per gallon to Rupees 2-8-0 nearly. The result has been that the sales have decreased by 5,000 gallons as compared with the previous fasli. The renters have engaged to sell 110½ gallons per diem; there will, therefore, at the close of the fasli be upwards of 9,000 gallons of liquor undrawn on which they will have to pay duty.

3. It is clear to the Board that no further enhancement at present is possible, and they propose to lease the outside godowns on the same terms as to issue and selling prices as have been in force during the current fasli, the term of the lease being fixed at two years, so that it may expire at the same time with the lease of the Chingleput District by which arrangement any future changes will be materially facilitated. Adverting to the remarks of the Government of India at paragraph 5 of the letter recorded in the Government Order quoted above, the Board will be glad to know, before instructing the Collector to call for tenders accordingly, whether their proposed action meets with the approval of Government.

4. With reference to the remarks of the Government of India at paragraph 6, the Board merely intended to imply by applying the epithet "noxious" to the cheap European Brandy and Rum now imported, that they believed such liquor

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
1st June 1876.

to be less wholesome than a pure saccharine spirit manufactured in this country. They have no evidence to show that such spirits are positively injurious to health, but the inquiries made into the question of the extent of the consumption of European spirits in the Town of Madras, and its effect on the revenue realised from Colombo arrack (*vide* papers recorded in G.Os., dated 18th June 1873, No. 621, and 5th December 1873, No. 1,354) led the Board to believe that the inferior Brandy sold in the town, if not positively unwholesome, is not what it purports to be, *viz.*, spirit distilled from the grape, but a mixture doctored to represent Brandy. It is stated by Messrs. Parry and Co. in their recent communication, embodied in G.O., dated 1st April 1876, No. 459, that the "European imports are made of the vilest trash." The Board have, therefore, obtained specimens of the cheapest Brandy procurable in the town, and have requested the Chemical Examiner to analyse them and state whether the liquor is deleterious or not. The result of the reference will be reported to Government in due course.

5. As regards paragraph 8, the Board have already pointed out that no change in the rates of excise duty can be introduced during the current leases, which will not expire till July 1878. In considering the arrangements to be made on the expiration of the present leases, the gradual development of the excise revenue, as far as circumstances admit, will not be lost sight of by the Board.

(True Copy and Extract.)

(Signed) C. A. GALTON,

No. 6

ORDER THEREON, 1st June 1876, No. 727.

Separate Revenue, No. 2.

Abkari.

CONSIDERING the fall in the aggregate sales of Arrack outside the High Court limits, the Government do not think it expedient to raise the issue and selling

prices still higher than they are. They are now on a par with those in the neighbouring district of Chingleput, and any further enhancement will inevitably lead to smuggling. The Government agree with the Board that the period of the ensuing lease should be fixed at two years, so that it may terminate about the same time as the Chingleput lease, when it will be convenient to carry out any changes that may be deemed necessary.

2. The Government await the information called for in paragraph 4.

(True Extract.)

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

To the Board of Revenue.

Exd. W. J. Lewis.

No. 1,142.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE, dated 1st May 1876.

Read the following letter from R. J. MELVILLE, Esq., Acting Collector of Madras, to C. A. GALTON, Esq., Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated 25th April 1876, No. 142:—

WITH reference to paragraph 2 of the Board's Proceedings, No. 1,502, dated 3rd June 1875, I have the honor to submit a draft notice inviting tenders for the lease of the five outside puttai-arack godowns of this district during Faslis 1286, 1287 and 1288. If the Board approve of the terms of the notice, I beg that they will be good enough to send a copy thereof for publication in the *Fort St. George Gazette* and return the original to me, that I may cause the publication of the same in the District Gazette and the daily newspapers as was done last year.

2. I further request that the Superintendent of the Government Press may be authorized to strike off fifty copies of the notice and send them to this office for distribution to intending applicants for the lease.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.—Draft Notice.

BEFORE issuing orders on the Collector's letter the Board desire to be informed what has been the effect of the enhancement of the issue and selling prices during the current fasli, and whether, with reference to paragraph 5 of the letter from the Government of India, recorded in G.O., dated 19th April 1876, No. 506, copy of which is herewith forwarded, any further enhancement is feasible at present. It does not appear advisable that the leases should extend beyond the period when the leases of all the farms throughout the Presidency will expire, viz., the close of Fasli 1287.

(A true Copy and Extract)

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

To the Collector of Madras, with copy of G.O., dated 19th April 1876,
No. 506, Revenue Department.

Exd. W. H. French.

5061 of 1876

REVENUE.

THE BOARD OF REVENUE.

Dated June, 1st.

G.O., 1st June 1876, No. 727.

JUNE.
No. 5-6.

Extract in the outside house of the Madras
Albion. Considering it inexpedient, for reasons stated, to raise the issue and selling prices of still higher than they are. Concurring with the Board that the period of the ensuing lease should be fixed at two years with a view to carrying out any changes that may be deemed necessary and awaiting the information called for in regard to the cheap European spirits imported into the Town of Madras.

227/4

No. 1,502.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE, dated 3rd June 1875.

Read the following letter from J. HUNTER-BLAIR, Esq., Collector of Madras, to H. E. STOKES, Esq., Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Madras, 27th May 1875, No. 132 :—

I HAVE the honor to report, for the Board's confirmation, the results of the leasing of the puttai-arack godowns outside the High Court limits during the ensuing Fasli 1285.

2. Only two tenders were received; of which I have accepted the higher made by the present renters. They engage to sell 110½ Imperial gallons per diem against 122½ Imperial gallons for the current Fasli.

Names.	Number of Imperial gallons agreed by the renters to be sold per diem.
1. P. Moonesawmy Chetty	
C. Soondara Mudely ...	110½
2. T. Mootoosawmy Mude-ly... ..	95½

3. The decrease is evidently due to want of competition caused by the system of leasing out the godowns every year; I therefore again suggest as I did last year, that in future the lease should be for three years.

4. I have not taken any deposit from them, as they have already deposited about Rupees 9,000 on account of their existing contract.

5. I shall submit, for the Board's orders, the settlement of the inside puttai and toddy shops as well as the Mount toddy shop as soon as received from the Deputy Collector.

THE Collector's acceptance of the tender made by the present renters for the outside godowns for next Fasli at 110½ gallons is confirmed.

2. The Board are disposed to agree with him that the lease ought to be for three years hereafter. The matter should be again brought to notice in sufficient time next year.

(A true Copy and Extract.)

(Signed) H. E. STOKES,
Acting Secretary.

To the Collector of Madras.

Exd. W. H. French.

1876.
Board of Revenue,
MADRAS.

PROCEEDINGS, 1ST MAY 1876, No. 1,142.

Received

For 227/4

Encl.

M A Y.
No. 1,142.

Outside Puttai-arack Godowns—of Madras District.—Calling for information on certain points in connection with Collector's letter forwarding draft notice inviting tenders for the lease of the five—during Fasli 1286 to 1288.

11th June 1876
227/4

Revenue Department

Proceedings of the Board of Revenue

Dated 18 May 1876

Read again Board's Proceedings dated
1st May 1876 N^o 1142

G. O. dated 19 April 1876 N^o 506. R.D.

N^o 159. Read also the following

From R. J. Kitchin Esquire
Agent of Madras

To L. A. Galtton Esquire
Agent to the Board of Revenue,
Madras.

Sir,
With reference to the Board's
Proceedings N^o 1142 of the 1st Instant,
I have the honor to submit a statement
showing the effects of the enhancement
of the issue and selling price of Arack
in the outside limits of the Madras
Abkarry.

2. The actual sales up to 30th April
last excluding undrawn liquor
amounted

1875.

Board of Revenue,
MADRAS.

PROCEEDINGS, 3rd JUNE 1876, No. 1,502.

Received

Rev^d 2
20th/76

Encl.

JUNE.

No. 1,502.

Putai Arack Godowns—outside the limits
of Madras High Court.—Collector's acceptance
of the tender made by present renters for — for
Rs. 1285 at 1108 gallons, confirmed. The
subject of leasing out these Godowns for three
years hereafter should be brought to notice in
sufficient time next year.

amounted to 20296 $\frac{3}{4}$ gallons, and adding 4,500 gallons which is the utmost that will be sold during the next two months, the total sales of Hali 1285, excluding liquor undrawn out of the stipulated quantity will be about 25,000 Imperial gallons or nearly 24 per cent less than the average sales of the 3 previous Halias.

3. The Deputy Collector remarks that this fall though partially attributable to the present unfavorable season is mainly due to the enhancement of the price of liquor from 3 Rupees to 3-8-0 per Imperial gallon, and I entirely agree with him in so thinking. The inhabitants of the Villages comprising the outside limits belong, as a rule, to the poorer classes, and if prices are further raised the consumption will still further be diminished.

4. The selling prices of Arrack in Chingleput and the Madras outer limits are now equal, and any enhancement in the latter will lead to the smuggling of Chingleput Arrack into the outside limits.

5. As regards the issuing price of Arrack to the renters I beg to point out that the renters nominal profits which amounted to 7 annas and 2 pies per gallon previous to Hali 1285, have been reduced to 6 annas.

6. The renters pay out of this profit, the cost of the cartage of liquor from the distillery to the Draw-out godown in the Dy Collector's office and thence to the godown at the outside stations. They further bear all the wastage, leakage and driage incurred in the outside godowns for which they also pay rent, all these expenses leave them a net profit of not more than

than 2 annas per gallon.

7. Under these circumstances I consider that the present issue price is high and that it should not be enhanced.

Madras Collectors Office
15 May 1876
I have &
(sd) R. J. Melville
Ag. Collectors Madras

Statement showing the sales ^{of Arrack} in the outside limits of the Madras for four Haslies

	Govt selling price per Imperial Gallon	Renters selling price per Imperial Gallon			Actual sales Imperial Gallons
		Rs.	A.	P.	
Hasli 1282	2-8-10	3	-	-	35569
Hasli 1283					33655
Hasli 1284					30127
Hasli 1285	3-2-	3	8	-	25000

Madras Collectors Office
15 May 1876

Signed R. J. Melville
Ag. Collectors Madras

Mr. Melville's letter will be submitted for the early orders of Government, with reference to G.O. dated 19 April 1876 No 506

2. The existing leases of the puttai arrack godowns in the outside limits expire at the end of the current Hasli and the Collector submits a draft notice inviting tenders for the lease thereof for the next three Haslies with reference to his predecessors opinion concurred in by the Board that the lease should be for a period of three years instead of

B. P. 3 June 75
1802

of one as hitherto. The Board
thereupon called for informa-
tion as regards the effect
of the recent enhancement of the
issuing and selling prices during
the current Hasli, the Board
having at the close of last
Hasli raised the ^{issuing} price from
Rs 2-8-10 to Rs 3-2- per gallon
30° W.P. whereby the profit to Govern-
ment, ~~or~~ excise, was increased 13th No: of 21st April
1875 to 985 A
from Rs 1-12-10 per gallon to Rs
2-8- nearly. The result
has been that the sales
have decreased by 5000
gallons as compared
with the previous Hasli.
The

72/4

The renters have engaged
to sell 110 $\frac{3}{4}$ gallons per diem; there-
will therefore at the close of
the Hasli be upwards of 9000
gallons of liquor undrawn on
which they will have to pay duty.
3. It is clear to the Board
that no further enhancement
at present is possible, and
they propose to lease the out-
side godowns on the same terms
as to issue and selling prices
as have been in force during
the current Hasli, the term
of the lease being fixed at
two years so that it may expire
at the same time with the
lease of the Chingleput District.
by which arrangement any
future changes will be materially

facilitated. Addressing
to the remarks of the Govern-
ment of India at para. 5
of the letter recorded in the
G. O. quoted above, the Board
will be glad to know before
instructing the collector
to call for tenders accordingly,
whether their proposed action
meets with the approval of
Government.

4. With reference to
the remarks of the Government
of India at para. 6, the
Board merely intended to im-
ply by applying the epithet
"noxious" to the cheap Euro-
pean Brandy and Rum now
imported that they believed

12/9
such liquor to be less whole-
some than a pure saccha-
rine spirit manufactured
in this country. They have no evi-
dence to show that such
spirits are positively inju-
rious to health, but the en-
quiries made into the quan-
tity of the extent of the con-
sumption of European Spirits
in the town of Cadiz and
its effect on the revenue as
realized from Colombras
- sack, vide papers recorded
in G. O. dated 1st June 1843,
621 and 5th December 1843, 1354
led the Board to believe that
the inferior brandy sold in the
Town is not positively wholesome.

is not what it purports to be
Viz. spirit distilled from the
grape, but a mixture doctored
to represent Brandy. It is
stated by Messrs. Parry & Co in
their recent communication
embodied in G. O. dated, 1st April
1846, 459 that the "European
imports are made of the co-
rnest trash. The Board have
therefore obtained specimens
of the cheapest brandy pro-
curable in the Town and have
requested the Chemical ex-
aminers to analyze them
and state whether the liquor
is deleterious or not. The re-
sults of the reference will be
re-

reported to Government
in due course.

5. As regards para 8
the Board have already point-
ed out that no change in
the rates of excise duty can
be introduced during the
current lease which will not
expire till July 1848. In con-
sidering the arrangement
to be made the ~~the~~
of the present lease the
gradual development of the
Excise revenue, as far as cir-
cumstances admit, will
not be lost sight of by the
Board.

(True Copy & Extract)

To
Wm. Cotton
City Secretary
The Secretary to
Government R. D.
with copy of Board's Proceeding

dated 3rd June 1845 & No 1502

and 1st Aug 1846 & No 1142.

Ed May 1847

10 June 173 - 127 - 28
 - 5 Jan 173 - 66 - 62
 - 24 May 175 - 245 - 46
 - 1 Jan 176 - 1 - 2
 - 19 Dec - 95 - 96

No 1040
 Received 1796 Oct 1st
 1 record of the
 Board of Pensions

No 727. 1st Jan 1878

Dated 1st Aug 1876
 Aug 18 - 1876
 Aug 2 - 1876

With Mr

Outside of the street
 of London - of had as
 said - at the time
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 proposed of a better
 river tenders for the
 use of - for want of
 fuel, and for making
 application with 8 for
 - since to Jan 1878 of the
 from Govt of the Board
 in G. O. 19 of the 1876 to 1878

C. 30, Aug 1876

No 2
 1876

No 727
 Considering the fall in the average
 value of work outside the High Court
 limits, the Govt do not think it expedient
 to raise the wages and selling prices due
 higher than they are. They are not on a
 par with those in the neighbouring Districts
 of 6 pence per hour, and any further increase
 - would not materially lead to any falling
 The Govt agree with the Board that the limits
 of the survey lease should be fixed at 2 years
 so that it may terminate about the same
 time as the Chancery lease, when
 it will be convenient to carry out any
 changes that may be deemed necessary.
 2. The Govt await the information called
 for in para 4.

14. 18th Dec 1876

1st Jan 1876

With the Govt of the Board's views
 a report to the Board, 26 1876
 in G. O. 19 of the 1876 to 1878
 prepared by the Board, 26 1876