M.R.O. 14—10,000—21-4-22.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 132 Press Mis.

263-264

Dated 18—1—1864.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

No. 263. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 10th January 1861, No. 145:—

Read the following letter from J. SILVER, Esq., Collector of Tinnevelly, to W. HUDLESTON, Esq., Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, Fort Saint George, dated 27th December 1860, No. 523.

SIR,

1. I have now the honor to submit for the approval and sanction of the Board and Government, a list showing the temporary Establishment required to be entertained during the approaching Pearl Fishery, with a list of stores necessary to be procured, and request the *early* sanction of Government for the same—the temporary Establishment to be employed from the 25th February, and required for probably one month.

2. The Board are aware that the Fishery is proposed to be conducted on the same plan as that now followed in Ceylon, viz., under the direct management and control of the Officers of Government, the oysters being sold each day, by public auction.

3. In all former Pearl Fisheries on the coast of this District, as, for example, those held in 1807, 1810, 1818, 1822 and 1830, the renting system was adopted; either the Fishery was let in one great rent, which was a lottery sometimes resulting disastrously, as, for example, in the Fishery of 1822, when from an unexpected failure of oysters, and outbreak of Cholera among the people, the Government were compelled to allow the renter to abandon his contract, or the boats were put up to sale, and occasionally for a few days the Fishery was conducted on account of Government, and the oysters sold.

4. This system was also followed in Ceylon till within the last few years, when it was discontinued; the Fishery was taken under the direct management of the Government Officers, and I understand it has since been much more remunerative.

5. I am clearly of opinion that, on every consideration, this is the course to be adopted by us. Thirty years have passed by since the last Fishery; our knowledge of the banks has until recently been imperfect; a better qualified Officer in the present Master Attendant, is now available to superintend operations, than could have been found before; a European Diver has been engaged, and a diving dress purchased for him; and as from all the information I have been able to gather, I look on this first Fishery to be the prelude to other more extensive and more lucrative Fisheries in subsequent years, I hold, we should keep the preliminary Fishery in our own hands, so as to gain all the information possible, at the outset.

6. The Board will thus understand the cause of sanction being requested for a much larger outlay, both on buildings and temporary Establishment, than was ever required on former occasions.

7. The Master Attendant first drew up a list of Establishment on the Ceylon scale, and with reference to it framed one on a somewhat reduced plan for this District. I thought it too high, and returned it for further consideration and amendment. He then sent me a revised scale, and this was again carefully examined by the Master Attendant and myself, and finally the scale now submitted was agreed upon. I see but one difficulty in the way; with reduced Establishments, and at a busy season of the year with the Jamábaudi about to commence, I cannot hope to be able to spare people from my own and from the Táluq Kacherís, but the Master Attendant hopes to get some men both from Cochin and from Ceylon, by advertising in time.

8. I send for consideration the Ceylon scale of Establishment for one of their Pearl Fisheries at Aripo, the revised scale drawn up by the Master Attendant, and that finally settled between us, and which I recommend for sanction, and shall proceed to remark briefly on it.

9. The "Superintendent" in Ceylon receives remuneration during the period of the Fishery at the rate of £2 a day. I recommend the same allowance to Captain Phipps here. The "Superintendent of the Kottoo" has to take charge of the Government share, two-thirds of the oysters brought on shore, sort the same in the Kottoo, and prepare the heaps for sale. As regards the Custom House, I have merely proposed a small addition to the regular Establishment at Tuticorin. The "Beach Master" has to keep the beach clear, see the boats brought to their fixed stations, and that no boatmen or Divers be permitted to transgress their fixed limits. As regards the Medical Establishment it will be necessary to detach a company of Sepoys from the Regiment at Palamcottah, to preserve order where a large concourse of people will be assembled, and much ready money changing hands the Medical Officer belonging to the Regiment might accompany the detachment, the Zillah Surgeon taking his duty at head quarters in the interim,

and both he, and the Officers and men so detached, should be remunerated by extra batta, or in such other way as the Government may approve, otherwise there is a Medical man at Tuticorin who might be employed, but that would entail an extra charge of 10 Rupees a day, which is needless.

10. For the Police and Sanitary Establishments, I have proposed the necessary additions to the office of the Deputy Collector and Magistrate stationed at Tuticorin, and who will have to attend at the Fishery, unless my Head Assistant's station be changed to Tuticorin, as I have recommended in my letter of the 12th instant, when this duty would devolve on him. The light vessels will be stationed at the banks. The "Inspector of Pearl Banks" must live on board the guard boats at the banks. I proposed at first that the European Diver, Mr. Burton, should undertake this duty, but Captain Phipps pressed strongly for a separate Officer, whose duty will principally be to prevent illicit Fishery. Mr. Burton will have to place the buoys, see that the banks are cleared of oysters, and be employed in diving. The above, I think, conveys the needful explanation as regards the Establishment required.

11. As regards the stores, I request that the Master Attendant may be authorized to get such as are not procurable in Tuticorin, direct from Ceylon.

12. I shall again address the Board regarding other matters relating to the Fishery, such as the remuneration to be allowed to the Jodee Talaven, the temple Manium boats, the "privilege oysters" to be deducted from the share of each boat, which is one-third, for the Government servants employed, and the general rules to be observed by all at the Fishery.

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1. Ordered to be submitted to Government, with the Board's recommendation, that the temporary Establishment for the proposed Pearl Fishery in March next, be sanctioned at an estimated cost of Rupees 2,759 per mensem for the time it may be employed, and that the purchase of the requisite stores be sanctioned at a cost of not more than Rupees 1,000, the whole to be debited to the earnings of the Fishery.

2. The Board will leave for the decision of Government, the question of the batta to be given to the Military guard to be detached from Palamcottah.

(A true Copy and Extract.)

(Signed) W. HUDLESTON, *Acting Secretary.*

No. 264.

ORDER THEREON, 18th January 1861, No. 132.

1. With this Proceedings, dated 10th January but received in the Government Office on the 16th, the Board of Revenue submit for the sanction of Government a list of the temporary Establishment which the Collector of Tinnevelly proposes to entertain in connection with the Pearl Fishery to be held at Tuticorin in March next, and an estimate of the cost of stores required.

2. The proposed plan of working the fishery, viz., in Amani instead of on rent appears to Government to be decidedly the best, not only this year but at every fishing.

3. The Establishment recommended seems judicious with one exception, viz., the remuneration proposed for Captain Phipps as Superintendent. Six hundred Rupees a month seems high if the fishing lasts much longer than a month; and a monthly or daily allowance for the period of the fishing seems also unsuitable to the case. In their Order of April 28th 1860, No. 676, the Government, while sanctioning an increase of Rupees 100 to Captain Phipps' salary, promised to consider his claim to further increase, after a successful fishing. They adhere to the opinion that it will be better to remunerate him either by a permanent increase to his salary or by a gratuity for his exertions at the fishing.

4. With this exception the proposed Establishment is sanctioned.

5. The Government are of opinion that the Head Assistant Collector should be present during the fishing, and the Board will instruct the Collector accordingly.

6. The Government sanction the expenditure of a sum not exceeding Rupees (1,000) one thousand in the provision of the required stores, and approve the proposed sanitary and Police arrangements. It would however save confusion if the Medical Officer on the spot were employed. His Honor in Council thinks that Rupees five a day or Rupees one hundred a month would be ample.

7. The Government will await the further report promised by the Collector on certain matters treated of in paragraph 12.

(Signed) J. D. BOURDILLON,
Secretary to Government.

No. 145.

Mem^m
Requested to be returned this Office Ingl. Enclosure in letter from the Coll^r of Tinnevelly 9/93 Dec^r 1860 rec^d 3^d January 1861 - No. 4 - Submitting Estimate of Establishments required temporarily to be entertained during the Pearl Fishery.
Forwarded to Post on a second item as per their Memo 9^d April 1861 No. 19 -

Chief Sec^y
Rev^e Bd Office
3^d Dec^r 1861

J. Baughton
Registrar -

To The Manager
Post Office P.C. Sept^r

No. 145.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE, dated 10th January 1861.

Read the following letter from J. SILVER, Esq., Collector of Tinnevelly, to W. HUDLESTON, Esq., Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, Fort Saint George, dated 27th December 1860, No. 523:—

1. I have now the honor to submit for the approval and sanction of the Board and Government, a list showing the temporary Establishment required to be entertained during the approaching Pearl Fishery, with a list of stores necessary to be procured, and request the *early* sanction of Government for the same, the temporary Establishment to be employed from the 25th February, and required for probably one month.

2. The Board are aware that the Fishery is proposed to be conducted on the same plan as that now followed in Ceylon, viz., under the direct management and control of the Officers of Government, the oysters being sold each day, by public auction.

3. In all former Pearl Fisheries on the coast of this District, as, for example, those held in 1807, 1810, 1818, 1822 and 1830, the renting system was adopted; either the Fishery was let in one great rent, which was a lottery sometimes resulting disastrously, as, for example, in the Fishery of 1822, when from an unexpected failure of oysters, and outbreak of Cholera among the people, the Government were compelled to allow the renter to abandon his contract, or the boats were put up to sale, and occasionally for a few days the Fishery was conducted on account of Government, and the oysters sold.

4. This system was also followed in Ceylon till within the last few years, when it was discontinued; the Fishery was taken under the direct management of the Government Officers, and I understand it has since been much more remunerative.

5. I am clearly of opinion that, on every consideration, this is the course to be adopted by us. Thirty years have passed by since the last Fishery; our knowledge of the banks has until recently been imperfect; a better qualified Officer in the present Master Attendant, is now available to superintend operations, than could have been found before; an European Diver has been engaged, and a diving dress purchased for him; and as from all the information I have been able to gather, I look on this first Fishery to be the prelude to other more extensive and more lucrative Fisheries in subsequent years, I hold, we should keep the preliminary Fishery in our own hands, so as to gain all the information possible, at the outset.

6. The Board will thus understand the cause of sanction being requested for a much larger outlay, both on buildings and temporary Establishment, than was ever required on former occasions.

7. The Master Attendant first drew up a list of Establishment on the Ceylon scale, and with reference to it framed one on a somewhat reduced plan for this District. I thought it too high, and returned it for further consideration and amendment. He then sent me a revised scale, and this was again carefully examined by the Master Attendant and myself, and finally the scale now submitted was agreed upon. I see but one difficulty in the way; with reduced Establishments, and at a busy season of the year with the Jummabundy about to commence, I cannot hope to be able to spare people from my own and from the Taluk Cutcherries, but the Master Attendant hopes to get some men both from Cochin and from Ceylon, by advertising in time.

8. I send for consideration the Ceylon scale of Establishment for one of their Pearl Fisheries at Aripo, the revised scale drawn up by the Master Attendant, and that finally settled between us, and which I recommend for sanction, and shall proceed to remark briefly on it.

9. The "Superintendent" in Ceylon receives remuneration during the period of the Fishery at the rate of £2 a day. I recommend the same allowance to Captain Phipps here. The "Superintendent of the Kottoo" has to take charge of the Government share, two-thirds, of the oysters brought on shore, sort the same in the Kottoo, and prepare the heaps for sale. As regards the Custom House, I have merely proposed a small addition to the regular Establishment at Tutacorin. The "Beach Master" has to keep the beach clear, see the boats brought to their fixed stations, and that no boatmen or Divers be permitted to transgress their fixed limits. As regards the Medical Establishment it will be necessary to detach a company of Sepoys from the Regiment at Palamcottah, to preserve order where a large concourse of people will be assembled, and much ready money changing hands the Medical Officer belonging to the Regiment might

accompany the detachment, the Zillah Surgeon taking his duty at head quarters in the interim, and both he, the Officers and men so detached, should be remunerated by extra batta, or in such other way as the Government may approve, otherwise there is a Medical man at Tutacorin who might be employed, but that would entail an extra charge of 10 Rupees a day, which is needless.

10. For the Police and Sanitary Establishments, I have proposed the necessary additions to the office of the Deputy Collector and Magistrate stationed at Tutacorin, and who will have to attend at the Fishery, unless my Head Assistant's station be changed to Tutacorin, as I have recommended in my letter of the 12th instant, when this duty would devolve on him. The light vessels will be stationed at the banks. The "Inspector of Pearl Banks" must live on board the guard boats at the banks. I proposed at first that the European Diver, Mr. Burton, should undertake this duty, but Captain Phipps pressed strongly for a separate Officer, whose duty will principally be to prevent illicit Fishery. Mr. Burton will have to place the buoys, see that the banks are cleared of oysters, and be employed in diving. The above, I think, conveys the needful explanation as regards the Establishment required.

11. As regards the stores, I request that the Master Attendant may be authorised to get such as are not procurable in Tutacorin, direct from Ceylon.

12. I shall again address the Board regarding other matters relating to the Fishery, such as the remuneration to be allowed to the Jodee Talaven, the temple Manium boats, the "privilege oysters" to be deducted from the share of each boat, which is one-third, for the Government servants employed, and the general rules to be observed by all at the Fishery.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

ABSTRACT.—Probable estimate of the cost of stores required for the Tutacorin Pearl Fishery.

ENCLOSURE No. 2.

ABSTRACT.—Scale of monthly allowances made to the Establishment employed at Aripo, Ceylon, during the Pearl Fishery for working 50 boats per day.

ENCLOSURE No. 3.

ABSTRACT.—Scale of monthly allowances for the Establishments required during the Tutacorin Pearl Fishery, as proposed by the Master Attendant at Tutacorin.

ENCLOSURE No. 4.

ABSTRACT.—Scale of Establishment to be entertained during the contemplated Pearl Fishery at Tutacorin in the District of Tinnevelly, in March 1861. Recommended for sanction.

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1. Ordered to be submitted to Government, with the Board's recommendation, that the temporary Establishment for the proposed Pearl Fishery in March next, be sanctioned at an estimated cost of Rupees 2,759 per mensem for the time it may be employed, and that the purchase of the requisite stores be sanctioned at a cost of not more than Rupees 1,000, the whole to be debited to the earnings of the Fishery.

2. The Board will leave for the decision of Government, the question of the batta to be given to the Military guard to be detached from Palamcottah.

(A true Copy and Extract.)

Acting Secretary.

To J. D. Sim, Esq., Acting Secretary to Government, R. D.

Copy to J. Silver, Esq., Collector of Tinnevelly.

Dated 10th Decr 16th 7 For early orders.

Exd. J. Wright.

2

The proposed plan of working the fishery, viz. in annani instead

4

of one, seems decidedly the best on every account, not only that year but at every fishing —

The Establishment seems judicious with one or two exceptions.

as to Capt. Phipps' remuneration, the Govt. resolved some months ago that they will give no fixed pay, but give him a gratuity after the fishing. Six hundred rupees a month seems high if the fishing lasts much longer than a month. A monthly allowance seems also more like to the case.

The only other other part of the Collr's letter which seems to need notice here is Para 12. If it is meant that one third of the Oysters are to be given to the Govt. servants (the ordinary Govt. servants) employed, I think it is a bad arrangement, & one which ought certainly to be put an end to, even if founded on local custom. In Ceylon a fixed allowance or batta to each servant is much better.

On this Comm. further report is required; or will or regarding the

The further report to be waited for by Govt

Rev Dept

A. No 132.

Proceedings of the Madras Government
Under date the 18th January 1861.
Read the following
Proceedings of the Board of
Revenue.

Submitting for orders a letter
from the Collector of Tinnevelly
with the Board's recommendation
that the temporary Establishment
for the proposed Pearl Fishery in
the Gulf may be sanctioned for the
time it may be employed and
that the purchase of the requisite
stores be sanctioned at a cost of
not more than Rupees 1000.

(Here under 10th January 1861 No 145)

With this Proc: dated 10th
Inst: but received in the
Government Office on the
16th, the Board of Revenue
submit for the sanction of
Government a list of the
temporary establishment
which the Collector of Tinne-
velly proposes to entertain in
connection with the Pearl
Fishery to be held at
Tuticorin in March next,
and an estimate of the cost
of stores ~~that will be~~ required.

2 The proposed plan
of working the fishery, viz
in

Rev Dept 1861 January
No 120
Proceedings of the Board of
Revenue.

Letter from the Collector of Tinnevelly dated 2nd January 1861 No 29.

Copy in Letter to Coast Collr dated 10th January 1861 No 145

Dated 10th January 1861.
Sanctioned to the Expenditure of Rupees 1000 as recommended by the Board of Revenue in their Proceedings of the 16th Instant.

(No 145)

Submitting for orders a letter from the Collector of Tinnevelly with the Board's recommendation that the temporary Establishment for the proposed Pearl Fishery in the Gulf may be sanctioned for the time it may be employed and that the purchase of the requisite stores be sanctioned at a cost of not more than Rupees 1000.

No 132. 18th January 1861.

Temple Catamarans boats & the allowance of the full batta or head money given -

I must doubt the policy of recognizing the Temple Catamarans at least -

The fishing is now being resumed after 30 years interval; & I think such old claims shd be disallowed -

It will I think that the Asst shd be present during the fishing -

I presume the Stores will be sanctioned; and the proper Sanitary & boiling arrangements approved -

Jan 16 - 8 am.

Yes - the Honble Members have complete control over the Madras Establishment

Yes - the Madras Establishment is under the control of the Board of Revenue

Yes for the Honble Member

in Annam instead of on such
appears to Government to
be decided by the best not
only this year but at every
fishing.

3 The establishment
recommended seems judi-
cious with one exception viz
the remuneration proposed
for Capt. Shipps as Super-
intendent. Six hundred
Rupees a month seems high
if the fishing last is much
longer than a month. and
a monthly or daily allow-
ance for the period of the
fishing seems also un-
suitable to the case. In
their Order of April 28th
1860 No 676 the Government
of India sanctioning an increase
of Rupees 100 to ~~the~~ Capt Whights' Salary,
promised to consider ~~it~~
~~to a proper~~ ~~for a fishery~~,
his claim to further increase, after a successful fishing.
Under these circumstances,
the Governor in Council is
unable to allow that Officer
any

any special remuneration
as Superintendent of the
fishery. They adhere to the
opinion that it will be better
to remunerate him either by
a permanent increase to
his Salary or by a gratuity
for his operations at the fishing

4 With this exception
the proposed establishment is
sanctioned.

5 The Government are
of opinion that the Head
Assistant Collector should
be present during the
fishing, and the Board
will instruct the Collector
accordingly.

6 The Government sanc-
tion the expenditure of a
sum not exceeding Rupees
(1000) one thousand on the
provision of the required
stores, and approve the
proposed Sanitary and
Police arrangements.
It should however be
considered if the Medical
Officer

Establishment & arrangements for the Pearl fishery

officer on the spot were employed. His Honor in Council thinks that Rs five a day or Rs one hundred a month would be ample.

7 The Government will await the further report promised by the Collector on certain matters treated of in Para 12.

13 Copies Board of Revenue Disp 18 Jany
3 " Accountant General's
3 " Cash Cheddon & 3 with Lists

Return Lists by the 16/2/bras per Memm
Comptroller
Print
Jany 18

Copy in a Letter to Govt
Dated 2nd February 1861 No. 29

Revenue 1861 Departt
Proc: of Govt for January

No. 132 -

Proc: of the Madras
Government -

Dated 18th January 1861 -

~~From~~ Dated 28th March last Cr 795
in Proc: 17th April No. 866.
~~From~~ Do 7th Decr last Cr 2857

Passing orders on a
letter from the Collector of
Tinnevelly regarding the
Temporary Establishment
to be entertained in connection
with the Pearl Fishery to
be held in March next
and the Cost of Stores re-
quired -

No. 263 & 264 -