

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No.	1128	Page No.
243-44 Dated	29-7-1870	12

Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
29th July 1870.*

No. 243. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 4th July 1870; No. 4,684:—

Read the following letter from the Acting Collector of Madras, to the Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Sydapet, 20th June 1870, No. 229.

IN the "Madras Mail" of last Friday evening, the following statement appeared: "That on Saturday last, (*i.e.*, on the 11th instant,) during the heavy rains, 2,00,000 Maunds of salt were washed away from the side of Cochrane's Canal owing to a want of room on the platform. The loss to Government is valued roughly at Rupees 4,00,000."

2. It is very difficult to make out from the above statement where it was intended to be asserted that the alleged loss of salt had taken place. There is such ample room on the platform at the Madras Salt Cotaar that no occasion could there have arisen for depositing salt on the sides of the Canal. Looking to the whole drift of the article in the paper, I am inclined to think that the word "platform" is a misprint for "platforms," and that the meaning intended to be conveyed was that, owing to the failure of the present contractor to supply a sufficient number of boats, the whole of the salt manufactured at the different pans along the line of the Canal could not be deposited on the platforms, but a portion of it had to be heaped up along the sides of the Canal, and, when rain fell, was washed away. In this latter case, however, any loss that occurred would not fall to the Government, but upon the manufacturers.

3. I at once called upon the Deputy Collector in charge of the Salt Department for a report, with reference to the statement which I have quoted from the "Madras Mail." I enclose copy of Mr. Smith's reply, from which the Board will perceive that there is not the slightest foundation for the statement in question.

4. A large quantity of salt was certainly washed away by the late heavy rains. This salt, however, was what had recently been scraped off the pans and placed on the ridges between the pans previous to removal to the platforms. The loss thus incurred was unavoidable, and falls entirely on the manufacturers.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

From A. SMITH Esq., Deputy Collector in charge of Salt, to the Acting Collector of Madras, dated 18th June 1870, No. 121.

WITH reference to your Memorandum of this date, No. 392, I have the honour to report that the statement made in the "Madras Mail" of the 17th instant that 2,00,000 Maunds of salt were washed away by the recent heavy rains "owing to want of room on the platform," appears to be greatly exaggerated.

2. A large quantity of salt has undoubtedly been washed away by the unusually heavy rain which fell early last Sunday morning. The salt, however, thus destroyed, was that recently scraped and placed on the ridges of the pans previous to removal to the platforms. Its destruction was, therefore, unavoidable, and the loss I attribute solely to heavy rain.

3. I may here add that losses of this kind, caused by a greater or smaller extent of rainfall, are events of annual occurrence; that they are in fact due to circumstances beyond human foresight or control, and that no one can be held responsible for them.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
29th July 1870.*

SUBMITTED for the information of Government.

No. 244. ORDER THEREON, 29th July 1870, No. 1,128.

Separate Revenue, No. 16.

Salt.

ORDERED to be recorded.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) H. E. STOKES,
Under-Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue.

Exd. E. C. Shunker.

31
 Rev 1870. *Sept*
 Board of Revenue,
 MADRAS. *2005*

PROCEEDINGS, 4TH JULY 1870, No. 4,684.

Sept 11/70 Encl.
 Received *11/70*

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 with JULY.
 No. 4,684.*

MA.
 Salt.—Letter from Collector of Madras forwarding copy of one from Deputy Collector in charge of Salt Department, reporting that statement made in "Madras Mail" of 17th June 1870 that 2,00,000 maunds of, were washed away by recent heavy rains from side of Cochrane's Canal, owing want of room on platform, is greatly exaggerated, and stating that salt actually washed away was that scraped and placed on ridges of pans previous to removal to platforms, submitted to Government.

N. 1128 N.
 Recorded *JSL*
At 29/7/70

C. 11/70 R. 29

Govt. of 1870 *MADRAS.*
 REVENUE.

THE BOARD OF REVENUE.

Dated July, 29th.

Recd.

G. O., 20th July 1870, No. 1,128.

JULY.
 Nos. 243-244.

Salt wastage in Madras.—Board's Proceedings regarding the statement made in "Madras Mail" that 2,00,000 Maunds were washed away by recent heavy rains from the side of Cochrane's Canal, recorded.