

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 158

Press
Mis.

327-329

Dated 20th January 19869

Not to be folded or roughly handled

been ordered in Board's Proceedings, dated 14th instant, No. 7,366. Much improvement in the condition of the manufacturers was, of course, effected in accordance with the said Order; but it does not appear to have been wholly given effect to, and care will be taken that it is rigidly adhered to for the future.

No. 3,994.

SUBMITTED to the Board of Revenue for information, with reference to Government Order, dated 7th October 1868, No. 2,582, embodied in Board's Proceedings, dated 16th October 1868, No. 7,432.

NELLORE, 31st October 1868. (Signed) J. A. C. BOSWELL,
Acting Collector.
To the Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue.

SUBMITTED to Government, with reference to their Order quoted by the Collector.

2. A copy of the Board's Proceedings, dated 14th October 1868, No. 7,366, is also submitted for the information of Government.

(A true Copy and Extract.)

J. A. C. Boswell
Acting Sub-Secretary.

To the Acting Secretary to Government, R. D.,
with Board's Proceedings, No. 7,366 of 1868.

Copy to the Collector of Nellore.

158/69
Exd. J. Wright.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
20th January 1869.*

Read the following:—

No. 327. Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 14th October 1868, No. 7,366.

Read again Proceedings of the Board, 31st January 1868, No. 778.

Read also the following letter from the Deputy Collector in charge of Salt, to the Acting Collector of Nellore, dated Camp at Tada, 29th February 1868, No. 62.

1. In reply to your foot-note, No. 315, to Board's Proceedings, of 31st January 1868, No. 778, asking me to report as to the estimate of actual cost for covering salt heaps, I have the honor to enclose a Statement (No. 1) giving the information in detail.

2. The estimated actual cost varies from Rupees 5 to 14, at Kanuparti. The latter amount would seem rather high; but making allowance for the local difficulties of procuring the straw, &c., it might be reckoned to come to about 10 Rupees at Kanuparti, the northernmost depôt in the district. The variations in cost in the other depôts are owing more or less to special circumstances of local demand, carriage, and labor.

3. In the station of Kanuparti, Padarti, and Pakala, Raggy straw is used for covering the heaps. At Kristnapatam, Iskapalli, Gogulapalli, and Dugarazupatam, the long grass is in use. At Tada and Sunnapungunta, Palmyra leaves are used, and at Tummalapenta, both the kinds of thatching are followed accordingly as the facilities of procuring the article.

4. The heaps are thrown in two ways, first lengthways as in Kanuparti and Padarti, resting on rectangular base, and all the sides gradually meeting up as the thatch roof of a hall, and, secondly, in other places with a circular base, and rising up gradually to a point at the head. The area covered is reckoned at 64 square yards.

5. The ryots have been usually covering the heaps as a part of their duty. In the Order of Government, dated 12th May 1862, No. 1,043, the manufacturers were required to provide labor for covering the heaps and replacing the platforms, &c., receiving payment for such duties. Deputy Collector Narrainswamy Moodelly, in his letter, dated 15th December 1864, No. 237, proposed to the Collector that the cost of thatching the heaps should be paid to the Ryots, and requested sanction for paying half a Rupee per garce at the least; and the Collector in his reply, dated 17th December 1864, No. 1,057, promised to write to the Board about the raising of the Kudivarum. When the present Kudivarum of Rupees 10 was allowed in 1865 as a uniform rate for the whole district, Mr. Dykes notified in the District Gazette, dated 18th February 1865, page 67, that this price included all expenses. The Deputy Collector Narrainswamy Moodelly, in Takids to Superintendents, relative to the increase of the Kudivarum rate expressly stated that the increased rate allowed by Government included in it 9½ Rupees as price of salt and half a Rupee for thatching costs. As I have not got in my office the Board's order on the subject, I am unable to state the fact on any other authority. The rate referred to at half a Rupee per garce gives Rupees 5 to each heap of 10 garce.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
20th January 1869.*

6. This sum seems to be fair for some of the stations, but from the details of the estimates and the inquiries I have made, I find that at Kanuparti and Padarti, 12 Annas may be allowed per heap, and all the others except Tummalapenta at 6 Rupees a heap, and at Tummalapenta at 5 Rupees per heap on the average. This will include also the mending up of the thatch soon after the rainy season.

7. Mr. Freer proposed in paragraph 3 of his letter, dated 20th December 1867, No. 296, that long grass should be provided by Tahsildars for thatching, for all the stations except Kanuparti and Padarti, and allowed half a Rupee for covering, and recommends in respect to these two stations that the ryots be required as usual to provide material, and be paid in return 6½ Rupees per heap, but long grass is not procurable to any great extent at Pakala, Tada, and Sunnapugunta. It appears from a reply received from the Sub-Collector of Nellore, dated 13th February 1868, that "plenty of long grass as reported by the Pakala Superintendent cannot be had in the villages of the Kandukur Talook," and that "the Tahsildar has, however, caused all the localities that can be found on Government property" to be reserved for the use of the Salt Department. At Sunnapugunta and Tada, the long grass is not to be had much. Even when the grass may be grown on sufficient extent, it would be more safe and less troublesome to allow the ryots to take them, and not to charge anything for the material; and it will take some years before successful grass could be so grown about Tada and Sunnapugunta. But for the present, the present modes of covering may be conveniently adhered to.

8. As regards ~~examination~~ of heaps, it is usual that the Salt Ryots furnish labor for breaking up the heap, weighing salt and storing it again. The ryots have not been always paid for the work. I find Mr. Freer paid 2½ Rupees per heap at Iskapalli and Gogulapalli, and I have paid at Tada Rupees 1-14-0 per heap at the rate of one Anna to thirty coolies for half day. I propose that a sum of 2 Rupees be sanctioned for opening, restoring, and re-thatching each heap examined.

9. The thatching mode differs with the material used. When the Raggy straw or long grass is used, the straw is formed, as it were, into sheaves of sufficient thickness and very carefully arranged side by side and up. A girdle of earth round the base of the heap is made to the height of half a yard and as thick. It requires two men on the heap to receive the straw and lay it down properly; two men are wanted to hand up the straw, and two or three are required to form the straw into proper sheaves; pegs are driven into the ground all around at the base, at equal distances, and twists, in some places, of paddy straw, and at others of Nagili creepers are passed over the heaps from one peg to its opposite through the head point, and they, as it were, form meridian lines on a hemisphere, binding the thatch straw to the heap and preventing it from being blown away by gales.

10. Where the Palmyra leafing is in use, as at Tada and Sunnapugunta, the pegs and the twists are not used. All round the heap about a yard high from the ground, turfs are thrown, to prevent running water from attacking the heap, and the leaves are arranged from the ground on right lines upwards where all the layers meet. Between each two lines of leafing, a turf paste is laid down as plaster, and that serves the office of the bending twists in the Raggy thatch.

11. All this work requires not less than eight coolies for more than half a day, and the cost of covering simply, may be estimated at 10 Annas the heap on the

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
20th January 1869.*

average. In the present year, the manufacture sanctioned will give into store about 340 heaps; but in general, a larger extent of manufacture is allowed and the storage has accordingly produced 700 heaps; last year 693 heaps were stored. Statement No. 2 shows the average estimated amount cost for the article and covering together and covering simply.

12. The covering business cannot be conveniently expected to be done by any others than ryots; for, storage generally commences early in the morn and closes at about twelve in the noon, and then the heaps should be immediately covered. At that time of the day no other laborers could be got but the storing ryots. It must also be remarked, that while forming the heap, water is thrown over the salt to give sufficient consistency to it as a whole to stand; in the Southern Cotaurs, about four or five potsful, and in the Northern Cotaurs more.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.—Statement.

ENCLOSURE No. 2.—Estimate.

No. 1,643.

SUBMITTED to the Board of Revenue, with reference to their Proceedings, No. 778, dated 31st January 1868.

(Signed) J. A. C. BOSWELL,
Acting Collector.

To the Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue.

In December last, application was made to the Board to afford to the Salt manufacturers of the Nellore District relief similar to that accorded in the Kistna District, by sanctioning payment to them for covering salt heaps: the Board expressed their willingness to comply with the recommendation of the Collector of Nellore, but called for estimates of the actual cost of covering the heaps at each station.

2. It appears that the Kudivarum for salt in the Nellore District was fixed in 1865 at Rupees 9-8-0 per garce, with an additional 8 Annas a garce to cover all charges for thatching, including labor and materials: at this rate, 5 Rupees is allowed for a heap of ten garce.

The highest sum allowed in other districts is Rupees 5 in the Ganjam and Kistna Districts, and the lowest is Rupees 2-4-0 in the Tinnevely District.

3. The Deputy Collector proposes to allow 12 Annas a garce or Rupees 7-8-0 for the heap of ten garce at two stations, namely, Kanuparti and Padarti, 8 Annas a garce or Rupees 5 per heap at Tummalapenta, and at all other stations Rupees 6 a heap.

Besides this, sanction is requested for a further sum of Rupees 2 for every heap opened for examination and re-thatched.

4. The Board are not prepared to sanction the higher rates proposed: where the peculiarity of local situation makes the better material such as Raggy straw too expensive, cheaper material such as Palmyra leaves, grass, and even mud can be used: the Board, therefore, resolve to sanction a uniform rate of Rupees 5 for every heap of ten garce, with a further grant of one Rupee for every heap re-opened, examined, and re-covered.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
20th January 1869.*

No. 328. Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 21st November 1868,
No. 8,231.

Read the following letter from the Deputy Collector, in charge of Salt Department,
Nellore, to the Acting Collector of Nellore, dated Alluru, 29th October
1868, No. 345.

1. With reference to your endorsement of the 22nd instant, communicating
Board's Proceedings of the 16th idem, No. 7,432, on the Order of Government,
Revenue Department, dated 7th October 1868, No. 2,582, I have the honor to
furnish the explanation required from me in the said Order as to why the rule laid
down in Government Order, dated 12th

* Page 208 of the revised edition of the Board's Circular Orders. May 1862,* No. 1,043, that the manufac-
turers should provide labor and receive
payment for such duties as repairing the platforms, &c., was overlooked in the case
of the repairs done at Becrumguntla, which I condemned as badly done, and attri-
buted to be the cause of the loss of ninety-five maunds of salt at that station in the
month of June last.

2. The repairs referred to were carried out upon the order of Tolasinga
Moodelliar, Deputy Collector of Naidupett, when he had charge of this Depart-
ment, in 1867, apparently under the following circumstances:—On the 13th April
1867, the Salt Superintendent of Padarti brought to Deputy Collector Tolasinga
Moodelliar's notice that there was a difficulty in finding storage room, and requested
instructions; and, in reply, he was directed to have the high ground adjoining the
platforms levelled and beaten down, and to store thereupon, upon which the manu-
facturers, under the supervision of the late Superintendent Zonnayula Narayana-
swami Nayadu, (since dismissed,) and his successor Sreenivasulu Naidu, proceeded
to extend and enlarge the platforms. The case appears to have been urgent, and
the work directed by the Deputy Collector to be done was apparently more of a
temporary nature to provide storage room than the permanent enlargement of the
platforms carried out by the manufacturers and the local servants. It was thus, it
will be seen, to a certain extent, unauthorized, and was, therefore, I think, rightly
not paid for.

3. I beg to add that the terms of the Government Order of 1862, referred to,
do not appear in this district to have been carried out in their integrity; *e. g.*, the
ryots have heretofore covered the heaps at their own cost, and the rate of remun-
eration to be paid them on this account has only just been ordered in Board's Pro-
ceedings, dated 14th instant, No. 7,366. Much improvement in the condition of
the manufacturers was, of course, effected in accordance with the said Order; but
it does not appear to have been wholly given effect to, and care will be taken that
it is rigidly adhered to for the future.

No. 3,994.

SUBMITTED to the Board of Revenue for information, with reference to Govern-
ment Order, dated 7th October 1868, No. 2,582, embodied in Board's Proceedings,
dated 16th October 1868, No. 7,432.

NELLORE,
31st October 1868.

(Signed) J. A. C. BOSWELL,
Acting Collector.

To the Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
20th January 1869.*

SUBMITTED to Government, with reference to their Order quoted by the Col-
lector.

2. A copy of the Board's Proceedings, dated 14th October 1868, No. 7,366,
is also submitted for the information of Government.

No. 329. ORDER THEREON, 20th January 1869, No. 158.

Separate Revenue, No. 13.

Salt.

Ordered to be recorded.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) R. A. DALYELL,
Acting Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue.

Ed. G. A. Turton.

2 May 1862 No 229
7 Oct 1868 - 130-131

Revenue Office
WP-3724

BOARD OF REVENUE, MADRAS.
1868.

PROCEEDINGS, 21ST NOVEMBER 1868, No. 8,231.

Depd 27 Nov 1868
Received 28th

Encl. 1.

NOVEMBER
No. 8,231.

Repairs to Beerungunta Salt Platform in Nel-
lore District.—Explanation from Collector as to
why rule requiring manufacturers of salt to
provide labor for repairing platforms &c, was
overlooked in case of, submitted to Government.

Wm Perender.
20 Dec 1868

C. 14 Dec 1868

in Copy to Mr. W. P. R. D. D. 20

Dist. of 1869, 20th.

REVENUE.

THE BOARD OF REVENUE.

Dated January, 20th.

Recd.

Emt.

G. O., 20th January 1869, No. 158.

JANUARY.

Nos. 327-329.

Cost of covering salt heaps in Nellore
District.—Proceedings Board of Revenue sanc-
tioning a uniform rate of 5 Rupees for every heap
of ten gaces and a grant of 1 Rupee for every heap
reopened and recovered, recorded.