M.R.O. 1—89,000—16-10-29.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 1747 Press ~~Mis.~~

437-438

Dated 19 & June ~~10~~ 1869

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
19th June 1869.

No. 437. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 12th June 1869, No. 4,232:—

Read the following letter from the Collector of Madras, to the Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Sydapet, 4th June 1869, No. 165.

* Originals with enclosures, (to be returned.)

I BEG to forward herewith copies* of three letters lately received from Mr. Smith, the Deputy Collector, and beg to recommend that the sanction of Government be obtained for the expenditure of the 10,500 and odd Rupees considered necessary by Mr. Smith.

2. I have lately myself been all over the northern Salt-pans, and can endorse Mr. Smith's opinion as to the necessity for the outlay; I can also vouch for the chances of our getting the salt up to the Madras Cotaur before the setting in of the north-east monsoon, being very small indeed, and hence the necessity for having the heaps well thatched and protected from the weather in the lasting manner recommended.

3. I propose going out myself to the Salt-pans next week, and if this money is granted before that time, I shall be able to see to its being properly and judiciously expended.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

From A. SMITH, Esq., Deputy Collector in charge of Salt, Madras, to the Collector of Madras, dated 14th May 1869, No. 121.

I HAVE the honour to inform you that there are about ten lacs of maunds of salt at the northern pans, of which no portion has yet been brought down to Madras, in consequence of the unnavigable state of the canal between the Lock and the Madras Cotaurs.

2. The temporary platforms erected by the manufacturers for the storage of their salt, are fully occupied, and a large quantity of salt now lies on low-ground, subject to be washed away by the first heavy fall of rain.

3. Something should therefore be immediately done either to remove the salt to Madras before it is destroyed, or to store it at the pans on ground above the reach of floods.

4. The former plan, in the present state of the canal, is simply impracticable, unless, indeed a supply of sea-water, sufficient to float our salt boats, can be let into the canal by opening the Cooum Bar.

5. I am decidedly in favour of this plan, as being by far the most economical and efficient project, and I think that an attempt at least should be made, at a moderate outlay, to carry it into effect at the next full moon.

6. But if professional Officers should consider this project to be absolutely unfeasible, there only remains for adoption the more expensive alternative of storing the salt on high ground, until it can be removed to Madras.

7. If your decision be in favour of this alternative, it will be for you to consider from what source you intend to provide the large sum that will probably be required to carry into effect. I am not now in a position to state what the amount will be, but I will endeavour to ascertain the cost as early as practicable.

ENCLOSURE No. 2.

From the same Officer, dated Madras, 21st May 1869, No. 127.

REFERRING to my letter of the 14th instant, No. 121, I have the honour to forward an approximate estimate, amounting to Rupees 410-14-7, for removing 83,920 maunds of salt now lying on

lowground at Pulidiwakum and Kattupully, to the six different places shown in the accompanying sketch, where they will be above the reach of floods.

2. The salt which it is proposed to store on these highlands, can be easily guarded by the Police; and being entirely in the vicinity of branch channels will hereafter admit of being speedily laden on boats for transmission to Madras, without extra charge to the manufacturers.

3. You will observe that the expenditure proposed is for the removal of salt from low to highground, and not for the construction of *platforms*, which will not only take time for their completion and consolidation, but involve the expenditure of a considerably larger sum.

ENCLOSURE No. 3.

From the same Officer, dated Madras, 31st May 1869, No. 136.

14th May 1869, No 121.
21st " " " 127.

IN my letters of the dates noted in the margin, I brought to your notice that owing to the unnavigable state of the canal between the Lock and Madras, not a grain of salt had been brought down from the northern pans and housed at the Madras Cotaurs.

2. I therefore suggested that, as there was no space to store the salt made at the pans on the platforms raised by the manufacturers, such salt as was likely to be washed away by floods should be removed and stored on higher ground, where it would not be liable to such a contingency. At the same time, I forwarded a sketch of the Pulidiwakum Pans, and a statement showing the probable cost of so securing the salt.

3. I have since prepared sketches, showing the highgrounds at the other villages north of Madras, where salt might be similarly secured; but I do not forward them, because my calculations for removing the salt from place to place are based on the expectation that there would be sufficient water in the branch channels to admit of the intended transfer by means of boats. The recent failures to open the bar successfully, has however upset these calculations, and rendered the transfer impracticable at present, except through the agency of coolies, and at a cost which would at once condemn the plan.

4. I must therefore abandon this proposal, and suggest some more feasible arrangement for the protection of the salt. Out of the quantity now on hand at all the pans, *viz.*, 11,99,820 maunds, 1,20,000 maunds lie in localities* where they may at any time be washed away by floods; and I have therefore ordered their immediate removal to, and storage at the Ennore Depot, where fortunately three ships are now loading salt for Calcutta, and clearing space urgently required by the department.

* Vullur. Attiput. Ennore.

5. Even of the success of this arrangement, the safest and most economical, because permanent, I am doubtful, on account of the low state of the water in the canal and branch channels; but every effort shall be made to carry it into effect, if practicable, by the employment of smaller boats than usual, conveying about one garce of salt each. I beg therefore that I may be authorised to increase, at my discretion, the ordinary rates of boat-hire which the arrangement will involve, reporting the same for your information.

6. But if it be found impracticable to carry out the arrangement for want of water in the canal, the next best plan I would suggest is, to extend and strengthen the platforms on which the salt is accumulated, so as not only to afford additional space for any further quantity of salt that may be manufactured, but to protect the platforms themselves from the action of water against their sides in the event of floods. The cost of this extension for the protection of 1,20,000 maunds of salt, at Rupees 1-4-0 per 120 maunds, I estimate at Rupees 1,250.

7. A thousand garce, or 1,20,000 maunds of salt, being disposed of in one or other of the two ways above suggested, there remain 10,79,820 maunds which cannot now be brought down to Madras. Of this quantity, 5,85,240 maunds are also on unsafe platforms, which should be

extended and strengthened as already proposed. The cost of this extension, at 14 Annas per 120 maunds, amounts to Rupees 4,267-6-0.

8. So far as regards arrangements for the protection of the salt from ordinary floods. But this is not all, it must also be protected from dust and rain, and should therefore be carefully covered. The cost of covering 11,99,820 maunds of salt, at eight Annas per 120 maunds, will be Rupees 4,999-4-0, and the question is who should bear the cost, whether the Government or the manufacturers?

9. I venture, with all deference and submission, to think that the cost should be borne by Government for the following reasons:—In the first place, it is no fault of the manufacturers that the salt has accumulated at the pans, instead of being removed, as made, to the Madras Cotaurs; in the next place, the Government have a greater interest in the protection of the salt than the manufacturers, the loss of a garce being to them equivalent to the loss of 202½ Rupees, while it is only Rupees 10-9-7 to the manufacturers. In the last place, as the manufacturers have not received a single Pie, in the shape of Kudivaram, for the salt they have already made,* the majority of them have not the means of procuring the large quantity of palmyra leaves which will be required to cover the accumulated salt. In ordinary years, a man who would buy 400 leaves to cover the entire quantity of salt made by him, from time to time, during the whole season, will now have to buy 4,000 leaves to cover precisely the same quantity, which not being removed as it is made, has accumulated in his hands from no fault of his own.

* Maunds 11,99-820.
Kudivaram due thereon, but not paid, Rupees 1,05,984-1-7.

10. To recapitulate. My proposals are, that, in the event of its being found practicable to remove the salt mentioned in paragraph 4 to the Ennore Depôt, I may be authorised to grant such an increase in the rates of boat-hire as I may deem to be fair and reasonable, and that in the event of its not being practicable to do so, I may be permitted to expend Rupees 1,250 *plus* Rupees 4,267-6-0, or Rupees 5,517-6-0 in all, for the extension of the platforms on which the salt referred to in paragraphs 4 and 7 is stored. And, lastly, that a further sum of Rupees 4,999-4-0 be granted for covering the entire quantity of salt now lying at the northern pans, the total expenditure for extension and covering being Rupees 10,516-10-0 as shown in the margin.

Garce.		Rs.	A	P.
1,000, at Rupees	1-4-0 =	1,250	0	0
4,877, at "	0-14-0 =	4,267	6	0
Covering		4,999	4	0
Total...		10,516	10	0

ENCLOSURE No. 4.—Statement.

ENCLOSURE No. 5.—Sketch.

THE Deputy Collector in charge of the Madras Salt Department states that, owing to the shallowness of Cochrane's Canal, none of the salt manufactured at the northern pans, during the present season, has been brought, or can be brought to the Madras Cotaurs.

2. There are now 11,99,820 maunds at the northern pans, 1,20,000 of which lie in places where the salt will be washed away by floods if heavy rain falls. The Deputy Collector has ordered these 1,20,000 maunds to be taken to the Ennore Depôt, but is afraid that it will be found impossible to carry out this order because the want of water in the canal and branch channels necessitates the employment of smaller boats than usual. In order to meet the difficulty in securing a sufficient number of such boats, he asks to be allowed a discretion in increasing the ordinary rates of hire.

3. If the 1,20,000 maunds, now lying in exposed situations, cannot be taken to the Ennore Depôt, the Deputy Collector considers that it will be necessary to enlarge and protect the local platforms at a cost of Rupees 1,250.

4. Of the remainder of the salt, 5,85,240 maunds are on unsafe platforms, which Mr. Smith says should be extended and strengthened at a cost of Rupees 4,267-6-0.

5. Further, he advises that the whole of the 11,99,820 maunds should be covered at a cost of Rupees 4,999-4-0, and the Board agree with him in thinking that this expenditure must be borne by Government.

6. The Board are of opinion that in the present state of the canal, which there is no immediate prospect of improving, they have no choice but to adopt the Deputy Collector's proposals, and they accordingly resolve to request Government to sanction the expenditure of Rupees 10,517.* The expenditure is not of the description to which the allotment for Petty Construction and Repair is applicable, and the Board are of opinion that it should be met from savings in salt contingencies.

	RS.
*Preparing platforms for 1,20,000 maunds	1,250
Improving ,, for 8,85,240 ,,	4,268
Covering 11,99,820 maunds	4,999
	10,517

7. Of course, every endeavour must be made to get the 1,20,000 maunds first mentioned to the platform at Ennore, and the Deputy Collector is authorised to increase the rates of boat-hire, as may be found necessary.

No. 438. ORDER THEREON, 19th June 1869, No. 1,747.

Separate Revenue, No. 13.
Salt.

SANCTION is accordingly granted for Rupees 10,517. The mode of adjustment for this expenditure proposed in paragraph 6 of the Board's Proceedings is approved.

2. The Deputy Collector Mr. Smith's suggestions for opening the bar of the Cooum river will be communicated to the Department Public Works for consideration by the Local Executive Officers.

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

Govt. of Madras 1869 Salt

REVENUE.

To

THE BOARD OF REVENUE,

&c., &c., &c.

Dated June, 19*th*.

Recd. Encl.

G. O., 19*th June* 1869, *No.* 1,747.

JULY.

Nos. 437-438.

Salt manufactured at Northern Pans, in Madras District.—Rupees 10,517, sanctioned for repairing and improving the pans.

6

Rec. 1963/69

Trasp. Imm. 16 de 1937

Dalfiche 2604/69

Statement Showing the Estimated quantity of salt lying in the low Lacalities of Puliduwakum and Kattupully Pans and the Cost of conveying the Same to high grounds at the Government Expense

Village	Estimated quantity to be removed	Places from where the salt shall be removed to high grounds	Rate per Garce or 120 lbs Measure		Amount		Total		Remarks
	In Mds.								
Puliduwakum	36,100	For loading Tap boats with the Salt lying on both Sides of the Chambers and Moolakally Canals	"	2	6	47 " 1			
		Boat hire for conveying the same from the above place to high grounds	"	2	-	37 9 8			
		Unloading charge of the same	"	3	6	65 12 11	150	6 8	
	12,100	For loading Tap boats with the Salt lying on the low grounds north of Rhodappa Coochinooly	"	2	6	15 12 1			
		Boat hire for conveying the same from the above place to high grounds	"	2	-	12 9 8			
		Unloading charge of the same	"	3	6	22 " 11	50	6 8	
	16,820	For loading Tap boats with the Salt lying on the low grounds on the Eastern side of the Poyalore Saraguim	"	8	-	70 14			
		Boat hire for conveying the same from the above place to high grounds	"	2	-	17 8 4			
		Unloading charge of the same	"	3	6	30 10 7	118	4 3	
	6360	For loading Tap boats with the Salt lying on the low grounds of Erramallay Saraguim	"	2	6	8 4 6			
		Boat hire for conveying the same from the above place to high grounds on the side of the channel	"	2	-	6 12 "			
		Unloading charge of the same	"	3	6	11 9 6	26	8 "	
Kattupully	12,520	For loading Tap boats with the Salt lying on the low grounds	"	4	-	26 "			
		Boat hire for conveying the same from the above place to high grounds near Thillay Saraguim	"	2	-	13 "			
		Unloading charge of the same	"	4	-	26 2	65	5 "	
							410	14 7	

Puliduwakum
19th May 1869

Le fort Rio Bec

5

Rec = 1963/69

From 19 June 69 de 2 137

Delg Rec No 1963/69

Inclu 1 - in a letter
to Cos from the Sdt
by Cos by 21 Aug
1869 No 127

5 a

Pulidiwakum Division

Katupully.

Selected № 1 High ground

№ 2

№ 3

№ 4

№ 5

№ 6

Revenue Department

Fl. 1747

Proceedings of the Madras Government under date the 19th June 1869.

Read the following Pro. of the Bd. of Revenue.

Plowing instructions relative to storage of salt manufactured at hot kerm yams & requesting Govt's to sanction expenditure pro- posed for construction of salt platforms.

(Fl. 6. 12th June 1869)

Now

Sanction is ac- cordingly granted for Rs. 10,517- The mode of adjustment for this expenditure pro- posed in para 6

of

of the Board of Pro-
ceedings is approved.

The depty Clerk, in obedience
to suggestions from opening
the bonds of the Town
Clerks were to be com-
pared with the Records of
Connecticut & the
Local Treasurer's Office
&c

14. To the 18th of Oct. Dec. 21
6. Dec. to Clerk's