M.R.O. 14—5,450—22-10-25.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue **DEPARTMENT.**

G.O. No. 2672 Press ~~Mis.~~

202-203

Dated 12—11—1867.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
12th November 1867.

No. 202. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 29th October 1867, No. 7,029.

Read the following letter from the Collector of Tinnevelly, to the Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Nettur, 4th October 1867, No. 529 :—

1. With reference to the Board's Proceedings, No. 3,709, dated 15th June 1867, I have the honor to inform you that Mr. Cocq returns the Government Pleader's draft of an Agreement unexecuted, and pleads his inability to execute it unless allowed to take old and new heaps together; in other words, he does not care to take the salt at all, and I think it would be far better to sell the salt in lots by public auction, rather than deal with a single contractor.

2. My proposal* for disposing of the stock at Culasegarapatnam would apply to all the abandoned pans, and commencing from January next after the monsoon, I propose a monthly sale of five heaps at each salt pan, and have no doubt that we shall eventually dispose of the entire stock of 330 heaps of old salt. The sale will be facilitated by the fact that the stock of last year's salt at Arasadi is exhausted, and there are only ninety-four heaps of last year's salt at Cailpatnam.

* Letter to Board, No. 451, dated 22nd August 1867.
Manjankolum.
Palayacoil.
Culasegarapatnam.

3. If the Board approve my proposal, I request that I may be favored with instructions as soon as possible, to allow of due publicity being given before the sales commence.

4. The Draft Agreement, and copy of Mr. Cocq's letter, are herewith enclosed.

From C. H. R. COCQ, Esq., to the Collector of Tinnevelly, dated Tuticorin, 30th September 1867.

In reply to your letters of the 23rd September and 19th June, I have the honor to return the draft of Agreement, enclosed in your letter of the 19th June, and in reply to the same, I beg to state that, unless Government are prepared to part with the new heaps of salt with the old in proportion, and not as they propose, I can have nothing to do with them. The time, forty months, must now begin after the north-east monsoon (which is so near at hand) has set in, and the roads again become traversable for traffic.

Enclosure No. 2.—Draft Agreement.

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1. Submitted to Government, with reference to their Order, dated 1st June 1867, No. 1,236.

2. The Board do not concur with the Collector. They have already pointed out to him in their Proceedings, dated 7th April 1866, No. 2,353, that his proposal might involve a very serious loss of revenue. They consider that Mr. Puckle should make a careful estimate of the quantity of salt available, making due allowance for diminution by deterioration, wastage, &c., and should then consider whether it will be most advantageous to sell at a rate reduced in proportion to such diminution, or to destroy the salt.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
12th November 1867.

No. 203. ORDER THEREON, 12th November 1867, No. 2,072.

Separate Revenue, No. 13.
Salt.

1. The Government observe that Mr. Cocq's objection to execute the Agreement appears to rest on the provision in it that he shall remove the salt in the order in which the heaps were stored, which condition, though part of the original suggestion of the Board, and probably included in the Collector's Circular Notification of 26th March 1867, on which Mr. Cocq based his tender of 28th idem, did not form express part of that tender, or of the terms recommended by the Board to Government for acceptance in their Proceedings, No. 3,073, dated 18th May 1867.

2. Mr. Cocq now apparently requires to be permitted to remove the salt in equal proportions of the oldest and newest heaps together, and it seems deserving of consideration whether some concession may not be made on this point.

3. To compel him to leave the newest salt to the last, is to expose him to risk of loss in those heaps beyond what appears essential for the Government security.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) W. HUDLESTON,
Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue.

2-12

No. 3,709.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE, dated 15th June 1867.

Read the following letter from R. K. PUCKLE, Esq., Collector of Tinnevelly, to the Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated 3rd June 1867, No. 236:—

I have the honour to inform you that Mr. Cocq, of Tuticorin, accepts the conditions imposed by the Board for the purchase of the Manjankolam salt. As the dry season is rapidly passing, I request that I may be furnished with instructions to make over the heaps as soon as possible.

Vide Board's Procs., No. 3,073, dated 18th May 1867.

The Collector is authorized to make over the heaps to Mr. Cocq on his undertaking to execute the Agreement, of which the Government Pleader will now be requested to supply a draft. Mr. Brockman will be referred to the Board's Proceedings, dated 18th May 1867, No. 3,073, and the Government Order, dated 1st June 1867, No. 1,236, copies of which will be forwarded to him.

(A true Copy and Extract.)

(Signed) **R. A. DALYELL,**
Secretary.

To the Collector of Tinnevelly.
,, the Government Pleader,
with copy of Board's Proceedings, dated 18th May 1867, No. 3,073,
and of Government Order, dated 1st June 1867, No. 1,236.

Exd. J. Wright.

Authorizing Collector of Tinnevelly to make over heaps of salt at Manjankolam pans to Mr. Cocq on his undertaking to execute an agreement accepting conditions imposed by Board, and requesting Government Pleader to supply a draft of the Agreement.

No. 3,709.

Dated 15th June 1867.
Received

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE,

1867. Department.
No.

No. 6,291.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE, dated 3rd October 1867.

Read the following letter from R. K. PUCKLE, Esq., Collector of Tinnevelly, to the Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Tenkasi, 22nd August 1867, No. 451:—

1. In reply to the Board's Proceedings, No. 5,138, dated 10th instant, I have the honour to inform you that I think it would be better to sell a few heaps by auction periodically wherever there is large stock of salt in hand, rather than attempt to dispose of the entire stock to a single purchaser by the offer of a liberal discount.

2. After a lengthy correspondence, and much uncertainty, and delay, Mr. Cocq's tender for the stock at Manjancolam was accepted, but to this day he has never executed the agreement required, and it seems doubtful whether he ever intends to do so. Watching to see that a purchaser fulfils his agreement throughout a lengthened period is alone a troublesome task; and all this correspondence, uncertainty, and trouble, would be got rid of, if some ten heaps were put up to auction in lots of one each monthly, the purchasers being bound to remove their heaps before the next auction sale, or to forfeit what they had not removed.

3. If these auctions were once established, I believe wealthy traders from all round the country would attend to buy a heap or two; and there would be no difficulty in disposing of the largest stock we have in about the course of a year; the stock at Culasegarapatnam now consists of thirty-two heaps, and this might be disposed of in three or four auction sales.

1. If Mr. Puckle's proposals are intended to be of general application it is obvious that they could never be acceded to, as they would probably involve a considerable remission of the revenue derived from salt, which it is certainly not within the Board's competence to grant, even if they deemed it advisable to do so.

2. The Board, however, are aware that in some cases the salt is so much deteriorated from age, &c., that a large nominal discount is in fact no reduction of price; and Mr. Puckle should now report whether this would be the case at Culasegarapatnam, and if so, he should state the estimated quantity now contained in each heap.

3. Mr. Puckle should at once close matters with Mr. Cocq, and report for orders, should he fail to execute the agreement at once.

(A true Copy and Extract.)

(Signed) R. A. DALYELL,
Secretary.

To the Collector of Tinnevelly.

Exd. J. Wright.

1867. Department.

No.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE.

Dated 3rd October 1867.

No. 6,291.

Requesting Collector of Tinnevelly to report whether the stock of Salt at Culasegarapatnam is much deteriorated from age, and if so, the quantity contained in each heap, desiring him to close matters with Mr. Cocq relative to his tender for Salt at Manjaucolum and to report for orders should be fail to execute the necessary agreement at once.