M.R.O. 14-5,450—22-10-25.

# MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

---

## Government of Madras.

Revenue **DEPARTMENT.**

G.O. No. 2825 Press ~~Mis.~~

522-528

Dated 28—11—1867.

***Not to be folded or roughly handled***

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,*
*28th November* 1867.

Read the following papers :—

No. 522. Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 25th June 1866, No. 4,322.

Read the following letter from the Superintending Engineer, 1st Division, to the Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Waltair, 15th May 1866, No. 17.

1. With reference to Government Order, No. 22, of 4th January last, I have the honor to submit the accompanying estimate, amounting to Rupees 14,280, for improvements to the Salt works at Penuguduru, in the Godavery District, and to request that early sanction of Government may be obtained to the work being executed.

2. If the work is to be executed in the current year, the necessary funds must be allotted from the current year's Reserve.

Enclosure No. 1.—Survey.

Enclosure No. 2.—Plan of salt pans.

Enclosure No. 3.—Plan of Salt Superintendent's Cutcherry.

Enclosure No. 4.—Plan of palisading.

Enclosure No. 5.—Plan of watching pendals.

Enclosure No. 6.—Plan of platform bridge.

Enclosure No. 7.—Abstract Estimate.

Enclosure No. 8.—Report.

The Board resolve to request the Superintending Engineer, 1st Division, to re-consider and revise his estimates for the Penuguduru Salt works with reference to the following remarks. The palisading to be omitted ; in lieu of which, a hedge will be planted by the salt servants. It will be better to have three platforms only instead of four, which will do away with the expense of one of those proposed to be newly constructed. The central platform being enlarged, a Cutcherry on the inexpensive style adopted in Madura, instead of the costly one now proposed, to be built in front of it. The Board calculate that, by these alterations, the estimates may be reduced by 7,000 or 8,000 Rupees. On the Superintending Engineer returning the estimates thus revised, the Board will be prepared to lay them before Government.

No. 523. Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 20th December 1866, No. 9,045.

Read the following letter from the Collector of the Godavery District, to the Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Cocanada, 17th November 1866, No. 270.

1. With reference to the Board's Proceedings noted marginally, regarding the alterations to be made in the Engineer's plan for improving and opening out the Penuguduru Salt works, I have the honor to forward to the Board a few observations, which will, I hope, alter their present determination as to outlay on the project.

No. 4,322, dated 25th June 1866.
„ 3,523, „ 26th „ 1865.

2. First, as to supply of salt to be kept in hand. The last order of the Board on the subject is Standing Circular, Board No. 5,761, of 3rd September 1864, which lays that eighteen months' consumption should be kept in store. The largest sales we have had of late years amount, in round numbers, to four lacs of maunds in Fusly 1270, and I think our sales from 1st June 1866 to 1st June 1867 will nearly, if not quite, equal this amount; therefore at this rate we should have six lacs in store. By the 15th February next, when the salt crop commences, we shall have in hand probably two lacs only, at the present rate of sale. During the season of manufacture, or say till 15th June, we shall probably sell another lac, therefore, allowing four lacs as the expected crop next year, we shall have at the close of the manufacturing season five lacs only. The crop this year exceeded that amount by three-fourths of a lac, but then we used a great deal of salt pan ground, which will not be used next year, because Mr. Clarke excludes it in his Salt Report.

3. Mr. Clarke in his Report, paragraph 56, proposes to use only the Penuguduru station, and the salt pans and swampy ground under it; and one of the present platforms (Mandagaruvu) with one or two more new ones, if necessary, on the high ground to the north-east of it. He apparently excludes the Jakkuva platform and salt pans, which are among our most productive ones. The Engineer's plan sent to the Board does exclude them, and by measurement gives of *gross* space of salt cropping ground obtainable within the limits sketched out, 183 acres, our stock in land being taken at six lacs of maunds; to produce this, we require 312½ acres of cropping ground. Where is it to come from? The Deputy Collector calculates that if we include the Jakkuva salt pans, we should have enough cropping ground; but if we include them, we *must* retain the platform there too, or one in lieu of it.

4. I would refer to the Map accompanying Mr. Clarke's Report, from which it will be observed that the Jakkuva platform is distant more than three-quarter mile from that at Valumagunta; more than a mile from that at Mandagaruvu; and that the nearest of the salt pans are half mile from the latter platform. The ryots, even at the present rate of pay they receive for the salt, cannot be expected to carry the crop that distance; and on the average they ought not, I think, to be asked to carry it more than 100 yards to a storing platform; otherwise, besides the amount of labor involved, the difficulty of watching and preventing smuggling and theft will be enormously increased.

5. Such being the case, we must, if we are to keep a crop of six lacs in store, retain the Jakkuva pans, the Valumagunta platform and pans, Mandagaruvu do., the two new platforms proposed by the Engineer, one more on the south side of the salt swamp exhibited in his plan, and another for the salt of the Jakkuva pans between the present site and Valumagunta, or six platforms in all.

6. As to storing space. For each heap of 10 garce, 50 square yards are required on the platforms; therefore, for six lacs of maunds, or 500 heaps, we should require 25,000 square yards, irrespective of the space required for roads and dividing channels. On the *four* platforms in the Engineer's plan, there are but 30,950 square yards for every thing, and this is calculated to afford storage for only 292 heaps, or three and a half lacs of maunds. At this rate for storage, we should require for six lacs, in round numbers, 60,000 square yards of space, and besides the requirements above alluded to, as the platforms are supposed not to be



empty when cropping commences, we must have a margin on which the ryots can deposit their salt as it comes from the pans, and remains till it can be weighed into store and heaped. For this purpose we should have, I think, 20,000 square yards. Total for all purposes 80,000 square yards of space.

7. In regard to the new Cutcherry proposed by the Board on pattern of those at Madura, I beg to observe that the space allotted for the guards, and spare weighing machines* on the one side, and the Salt Superintendent and his staff and cash chest on the other, seems from the plan sent, to consist of two rooms, each 6½ feet by 6 feet, with a wall around it 8 feet high, and a roof over all, and with a pial in front of each 4 feet wide. To my surprise these are said to answer admirably for a Cutcherry Guard-room, &c. I cannot conceive how an enclosure not equal in size to a small Bechoba, and which I should term an indifferent dog-kennel as regards accommodation in an Indian hot season, can be thought adapted for housing human beings at that time of the year. I think if one of the Members of the Board were to occupy such a room for a couple of hours in a May forenoon, with the thermometer at or over 100°, and a hot land wind blowing, he would concur in my opinion as to its fitness for a Cutcherry. The weighing machines, of which we have four in store generally, occupy each a space of two square yards, so that one would nearly fill the room meant for such and the guard. The Salt Superintendent and his staff are seven in number—How are they to find sitting and working room in a space of less than 40 square feet area? I cannot help thinking that some important mistake has been made in calculating the space required for Cutcherry accommodation. In the Engineer's plan, the Record-room might be left out, and the records kept in shelves in the Superintendent and Gumastah's sitting room.

* We do not use Mercalls now.

8. The Board say that a hedge round the platforms is to be planted by the salt servants, meaning of course Measurers and Vettyans. If they *only* be expected to do the work, it will progress very slowly, considering the distance materials will have to be brought from.

9. Mr. Clarke proposes three sites from which one should be selected for a new salt-producing station, viz., Uppadu, Uppalaguptam, and Moorie. The first has been inspected by myself and found unfit. The second by the Deputy Collector, and found unfit also. The third, Moorie, would answer very well I believe, from the Deputy Collector's report on it; but I would recommend instead the re-opening of Mogultoor. There are buildings there all ready to hand; the place communicates by canal with Narsapoor, and the salt could thus be conveyed in any direction out of the district. The ryots understand salt making, which those at Moorie do not, and the site would be close to the Sub-Collector's head quarters, and easily visited at any time, while Moorie is distant from the station of any official above the grade of Tahsildar. The quality of the salt at Mogultoor, formerly bad I believe, could be improved by the same measures now used to improve the Karapa salt, and would, I doubt not, be equally successful.

10. It does not seem to me probable that any plan for the improvement of the Penuguduru pans, &c., can now be carried out before the time when the manufacturing season commences. I would, therefore, ask the Board's instructions as to what pans beyond those above-named we should use this year. I would

suggest that only the pans supplied by the Challingy creek be used, and the others definitely abandoned.

1. The Board do not consider that the Collector has shewn sufficient reason for any material modification of the Board's Proceedings dated 25th June 1866, No. 4,322.

2. At the time of Mr. Clarke's visit to Karapa, the yearly sales for ten years had not averaged more than 3½ lacs of maunds, although they have lately increased, and it is probable that the larger amount of sales in Fusly 1270 and in the present year, viz., four lacs, may be exceptional.

3. The Board think that, with sales at that rate, two more platforms between Mandagaruvu and Jakkuva, and one on the south side of the swamp, ought to be sufficient for storage.

4. A quarter or even half a mile does not appear too great a distance between the pans and platforms, and if proper precautions are taken, smuggling and theft may be easily prevented.

5. The Board do not perceive the force of the objections raised by the Collector to the proposed gateway rooms. The plan has been found to suit perfectly well for years in the Madura District, where the thermometer ranges quite as high as at Karapa.

6. Although the rooms proposed might afford unsuitable accommodation for European Officers, it does not follow that they will not provide ample accommodation for the native officials whose tastes and necessities are somewhat different.

7. The rooms might be enlarged to suit the requirements of the larger Cutcherry at Karapa, but the Board desire that the records at Salt stations be kept down to a minimum. There should be scarcely any at all.

8. If the Collector can guarantee the manufacture of good salt at Mogultoor, the Board have no objection to a trial being made of re-opening the pans at that place.

---

No. 524. Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 6th August 1867, No. 5,026.

Read the following letter from the Collector of the Godavery District, to the Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Cocanada, 13th May 1867, No. 103.

1. With reference to the provision made in the Budget Estimate of Charges for temporary establishment in the Salt Department, received with the Board's Proceedings, dated 27th February 1867, No. 1,206, I have the honor to request the Board will be good enough to obtain the sanction of Government for the entertainment of two extra Gumastahs on Rupees 15 each per mensem, for a period of three months from June to August. The Deputy Collector in charge of the Salt Department proposes to employ the *permanent* Gumastahs of the department in storing salt to aid the Assistant Superintendents, with a view of securing more careful execution of the duty, and to charge the extra ones in their stead with the ordinary routine work of office.

2. The services of the temporary establishment will be required by 1st proximo.



If the Collector carries out the Board's orders for concentrating the salt pans, there would be no necessity for any extra establishment. The Board would not allow any additional establishment, as the permanent one is sufficiently strong and ample for every purpose. They trust the Collector will take immediate steps for carrying out the orders already issued by them regarding the concentration of the pans.

---

No. 525. Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 17th August 1867, No. 5,329.

Read the following letter from the Acting Superintending Engineer, 1st Division, to the Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Camp at Dowlaishweram, 24th July 1867, No. 96.

With reference to your Official Memorandum, No. 747, of 11th instant, I have the honor to enclose copy of a letter* from the Executive Engineer in charge of No. 1 Range, Godavery, in which he states that the Collector has requested him not to do anything regarding the preparation of estimates for the improvement of the Salt works at Penuguduru, pending a reply to a reference made by him to the Board on the subject.

* No 526 of 16th November 1866.

---

From the Officer in charge No. 1 Range, Godavery, to the Superintending Engineer, 1st Division, dated Dowlaishweram, 16th November 1866, No. 526.

1. With reference to your Memorandum, No. 809, dated 12th September last, I have the honor to inform you that I have personally spoken to the Collector on the subject of alterations to the Salt works.

2. The Collector having discovered that the storage allowed in plan is insufficient, informed me that he objected to the reduction, and requested me not to do anything regarding it, pending the receipt of a reply to his letter to the Board of Revenue.

---

1. The Collector's letter, to which the Acting Superintending Engineer refers, was disposed of in Board's Proceedings, No. 9,045, dated 20th December 1866.

2. The Acting Superintending Engineer is requested to submit, without further delay, an estimate for the improvement of the Salt works at Penuguduru, with reference to the Board's remarks in their Proceedings, No. 4,322, dated 25th June 1866.

---

No. 526. Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 20th September 1867, No. 6,043.

Read the following letter from the Collector of the Godavery District, to the Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Cocanada, 20th August 1867, No. 227.

1. With reference to the Board's Proceedings of 6th August 1867, No. 5,026, I beg to state that early next month, which is as soon as the Executive Engineer in charge will be at leisure, I mean to go with him to Penuguduru, and there settle with him about the revised estimate to be sent in for the Salt works.

2. Referring, however, to the accompanying plan of these works and former Proceedings regarding them, I would ask a few questions to which I request replies.

3. In paragraph 3 of their remarks on my letter of 17th November 1866, No. 270, the Board say that two more platforms between Mandagaruvu and Jakkuva, and one on the south side of the swamp, ought to be sufficient for storage; and in their Proceedings No. 4,322, of 25th June 1866, they say to the Superintending Engineer: "It will be better to have three platforms only instead of four".

4. Being of opinion that it will be well to avoid, as far as possible, the carrying of salt from the pans a long distance to the platforms, and thus to avoid the necessity for leaving gathered salt out at night on the bunds of pans, I would propose to retain the three existing platforms at Mandagaruvu, Chittayapuram, and Valamagunta, and make two new ones at or about the spots marked thus (×) in the plan. Thus we should have only two new platforms, and they should be made to contain, in all, storage room for five lacs of maunds at least.

5. May the estimate be revised on this basis?

6. I hope the Board have abandoned the idea of enclosing the platforms and *pans* with a canal or ditch. I have just seen Mr. Sage, and he has proved to me that, at a moderate estimate, it cannot be done for less than 60,000 Rupees; and when done, I much doubt its efficacy in preventing theft. May we leave out this item?

7. The Board also say "a hedge will be planted by the salt servants"—round the *platforms* I presume. I beg to say that this will be slow work if so done, because the materials must be fetched from a considerable distance, and the servants who could and would do it are few.

8. Prickly-pear has been tried and will not grow; so I much doubt any plant fit for a hedge, and that I know of, growing either.

9. The Engineer will endeavour to meet the Board's wishes in providing, on the central platform, an inexpensive but sufficient Cutcherry on something of the Madura plan.

Enclosure No. 1.—Plan.

1. The Board are of opinion that it will only be necessary to make one new platform at the spot in the plan now marked ×, and that a new platform at ×, south of Mandagaruvu, is not required.

2. The platforms at Mandagaruvu, Chittayapuram, and Jakkuva can be enlarged as the manufacture increases.

3. If it is proposed to carry on operations on the land shewn as suitable for pans to the east of Jakkuva, it may be necessary to have two platforms, as shewn in the plan, one at Nadintippa and the other at Ponalkalva; but this can stand over for the present.

4. The Board cannot understand the impossibility of making a hedge. It has been proved possible in other districts, and the Collector should persist in endeavouring to get it commenced and completed. The Board attach considerable importance to this part of the work.

5. The estimated cost of the moat is excessive, and too large to be sanctioned at present; but a beginning should be made, and something should be done towards it every year till it is completed.

6. The Board will be glad to hear further from the Collector when he has visited Penuguduru, as he proposes to do this month.



No. 527. Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 14th November 1867, No. 7,420.

Read the following letter from the Collector of the Godavery District, to the Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Cocanada, 9th October 1867, No. 275.

1. I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of Board's Proceedings, No. 6,043, of 20th September 1867, regarding the revised estimate for Salt works at Penuguduru, and which are in answer to my letter, No. 227, of 20th August.

2. While waiting for this answer, the Acting Superintending Engineer informed me that he had received peremptory orders to proceed at once* with these estimates. He has done so, and forwarded them to me, and I now beg to send them for the Board's approval. The moat round the pans, the Board will observe, has been omitted, but it can easily be estimated for, if desired.

* *Vide* Board's Proceedings, 17th August 1867, No. 5,329.

3. This interim preparation of plans by the Engineer Department has done away with any necessity for a special visit by them, or by myself, to the pans at present. I received the plans now sent on the 14th September; but as Mr. Rundall wished to see them, to help him in preparing those for the new salt pans at Mogultoor, I sent them to him. Hence the delay in their transmission.

Enclosure No. 1.—Estimate.

Enclosures Nos. 2 to 6.—Plans.

1. The estimates for the improvement of the Salt works at Penuguduru, which have been reduced on revision from Rupees 14,280 to Rupees 7,500, will be submitted for the sanction of Government. It is important in the interest of the Salt revenue that the work should be commenced as soon and pushed forward as rapidly as possible.

2. The estimate for a moat should be prepared, and provision made for carrying it out gradually, so that it may be complete in three or four years.

No. 528. Order thereon, 28th November 1867, No. 2,825.

| Separate Revenue, No. 36. |
|---|
| *Salt.* |

1. The estimates, amounting to Rupees 7,500, are sanctioned.

2. The works appear to be similar to those entered in the Board's list of minor Salt works, and provision for them must be made by transfer, or in the Budget for the coming year.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) W. HUDLESTON,
*Secretary to Government.*

To the Board of Revenue.
" the Public Works Department.
" the Accountant General.

Exd. F. R. Bantleman.

No. 2825.

The estimates
amounting to £7500 are
sanctioned.

The Secretaries
of the Treasury & Navy
Boards
will
cause
a List of Services
to be made out
and duly transmitted
to me in the Budget
for the coming
Year.

C. B.

11 Copies to the Navy Board Dept. 29
21 " " Ord. Dept.
6 " " Acct. Genl's Office 28 Nov. 67.