Revenue (1897) Department.

MISCELLANEOUS SERIES.

G.O., No. 2816

DATED 3 June 97

[Despatch Abstract.]

Reg. S. Board of Rev. re expediting the refund called for in G.O. 2586 20-5-97 re: commutation of Salem & Coimbatore DA.

BACK PAPERS.

G.O	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O	No	Department.	Date.

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

Revenue (1897) Department.

G.O. Gen. No. 2536, 20-5-97
and 27-5-'97

CURRENT No. 3111

Secy

2410

From

The Board of Revenue
Rev: Sett: L.R & Agri:
Madras

Order Misc No 2816 & 3-6-97

The Director, Geological Survey of India will be addressed on the subject of the mica inspection of the mica mines in Nellore on receipt of the Board's request & the report called for in G.O. No 2586 & 20.5.97, which should be expedited.

No. 3151 Mis:

Dated 5th May 1897.

Received 6.6.97

Registered 11.6.97

Enclosures

Spare copies Flagged

SUBJECT.

Submitting for the orders of Government papers relating to mica mines in Nellore District.

We 27/5/97

Hyde 7/6/97

I have We 9.6.97

To the Board (R.S.) dtd. 9-6-97 Nellore. In his letter of the 11th May '97 No 357 in Go. flagged the Director, Geological Survey of India asks what the intentions of this Govt

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.
Ro-	2586	P.W.	27.

Govt are in the matter of the continuance of the investigation of the Corundum deposits of Salem & Coimbatore Districts, in which Mr Middlemiss has been engaged. The letter has been referred to the Board of Revenue for report and if it is decided that the operations should be continued, Mr Middlemiss cannot probably be spared for other work. In any case, Mr Middlemiss, being under the orders of the Director, Geological Survey of India, cannot be directed by this Govt to go to Nellore to inspect the mica mines. The proper course seems to be to ask the Director, to suspend the corundum investigation for some time, if necessary, and to send Mr Middlemiss to Nellore for inspecting & reporting on the mica mines in the Districts. Nellore can be asked to forward the report before being put up for orders

Mr
27/5

28/5/07

The order issue immediately. We can write to Mr Middlemiss in connection with the Govt opinion.

27/5/07.

An amended order is submitted. Issued. Copy to reminder to close the connection

16.7

Mica:- This mineral occurs in fairly large quantities in the Rapur Taluk, chiefly in the villages of Utukur, Sydapuram, Chagamuru, Immalatalapur and Padalakur and to a less extent in Immela and Birdavolu - In Nallapalem and Prabhagiripatnam, Atmakur Taluk; Chennur and Mangalapur, Gudur Taluk; and in a few villages in the Kavali Taluk: also in some villages in the Venkatagiri Zamindari bordering the Rapur Taluk and Panur in the Kalahasti Zemindari. Since 1895 the industry has gradually developed. Formerly only the very best transparent mica was exported but now it appears that the black and brown stained (caused by the spread of manganese ore and iron between the planes of cleavage) and

and ripple marked mica are also exported chiefly to London. The best mine in the district is situated about 18 miles South by West of Nellore in the village of Podalakuri (Linkuntla). It was worked by Mr: E. H. Sargent and relinquished by him at the expiration of two years. Subsequently a native of the district applied for the land and it has been granted to him on a two years lease. The mine still yields a large quantity of clear mica.

The price of mica varies according to size and quality. Small plates measuring one or two inches square sell at Home for a penny per ~~lb~~. This size is generally got from tailings and refuse heaps — while average size plates sell from 7" to 8" shillings per ~~lb~~ and plates 10"x10" at 12 to 15 shillings per ~~lb~~.

Garnets. One of the accessory minerals is found in small quantities with low value and apatete in a few mines situated in the villages of Sydapuram and Chaganam. It is, however, of no commercial value. Locally the mineral is reduced to a powder mixed with lac and formed into wheels for grinding Knives &c.

(Signed) J. H. B. Brougham

(True Copy)

(Signed) W. S. Meyer.
Aq: Collector.

(True Copy)

R. J. Srinivasacharlu
Secretary.

Southern

No. 2706 Ver dated 17th July 1896.

From.

E. Scott. Esquire

Actg Collector of Nellore.

To

The Secretary to the Board of Revenue
Revenue Settlement, Land Records
Agriculture, Madras.

Through C. S. Middlemiss Esquire
Dy: Superintendent, Geological
Survey of India.

Sir,

With reference to Board's Proceedings No. 1310 and 2088 dated 20th May and 12th July 1895 respectively I have the honor to forward herewith a note together with a sketch map in modification, so far as this district is concerned, of the information given on pages 3 & 4 of Board's Proceedings 24-12-92 806 Sett: regarding the mineralo-mica and garnet.

2. C

2343/12-6-95

3275/14-8-95

2. There is nothing more to be said about other minerals beyond what is given in the statement forwarded with this office No: 2606 Ver / 13.6.92 printed in the Board's Proceedings above quoted.

I have &c.

(Signd) E. Scott.
Ag Collector.

(True Copy)

(Signed) W.S. Meyer
Ag: Collector.

(True Copy)

R.B. Srinivasa Iyer
Secretary.

Encld 7/357

(Sett. 24 - 2,000—29-10-96.)

REVENUE BOARD OFFICE. MADRAS.

14P

Proceedings of the Board of Revenue

(Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture.)

Dated 10th March 1897.

No. 1798 mis:

Read the following letter from the Collector of Nellore, dated 15th January 1897 No. 117 / Ver: —

With reference to Board's Proceedings No: 117 mis: dated 6th instant, I have the honor to submit herewith a copy of Mr. Scott's letter No: 2706 / Ver dated 17th July last with a copy of its enclosure, and to observe that they were originally forwarded through Mr. Middleton who has probably not sent them on to the Board.

Resolution

Recorded. 6

2. With reference to the Collector's remarks about mica, the attention of Mr. Middlemiss will be invited to para 4 of Board's Proceedings No. 3116/24-6-96 and para 1 of G.O. No. 3072/1-8-96 thereon, from which it will be seen that the Board's proposal that the mica mines in Nellore should be inspected and reported on by Mr. Anderson who was then expected to come to this Presidency, was approved by Government. Owing, however, to Mr. Anderson's resignation the Board observes that Mr. Middlemiss' term of service in this Presidency has been extended till 1900. He is requested to report what arrangements have been made by him to inspect the mica mines in Nellore. The mica industry which is one of daily increasing

G.O. 3072 / 1-8-96

increasing importance, will be greatly helped, if, after inspection, he can offer any suggestions to improve the mode of extraction and preparation. He is also requested to state whether he knows of any process for the utilization of mica waste by compressing it into plates or otherwise.

3. The Board learns with surprise that the spotted mica is being exported. It is believed that this is useless for Electrical purposes for which the chief demand has arisen.

(True Copy & Extract)

(Signed) R.V. Srinivasiar
Secretary.

To ~~The Hon'ble~~ T.S. Middlemiss Esquire,
Supdt. Geological Survey of India.

Copy to the Collector of Nellore.

(True Copy)

R.V. Srinivasiar
Secretary.

(Sett. 24—2,000—29-10-96)

Reading again the following Govt. Ltr. 12813. dated 3 Jun 1897

REVENUE BOARD OFFICE MADRAS.

Proceedings of the Board of Revenue

(Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agricultu

Dated 5th May 1897.

No. 3151 Mis:

Read again Board's Proceedings, 30.3.97 No 1798 Mis:

READ also the following letter from the Superintendent, Gological Survey of India dated 19th March 1897 No. 155 S/R :—

reply attached 20P

In reply to the Board's Proceedings No. 1798 Mis: of 10th March 1897, Resolution 2, I have the honor to observe that the extension of my ~~term~~ term of deputation to Madras till 1900 was not consequent on Mr. Anderson's resignation (See letter from Director, Geological Survey of India to the Government of India, Revenue and Agriculture, No. 1962 dated 19th September 1896 para 3) and that therefore work proposed for

Mr. Anderson (except the investigation of the Corundum deposits, for which special arrangements were made by the Director) does not necessarily devolve on me

I have the honor to observe further that as I am primarily engaged on the Coimbatore and Salem districts the sanction of my director is necessary for any important work outside of those districts. The superintending of the Corundum workings has taken all the time I could spare from the regular survey work.

In consequence of the above, no steps have been taken by me to investigate the mica of Nellore.

With reference to the queries about the utilization of mica waste and 'spotted mica' (paras 2 and 3), I have

have the honor to refer the Board to the Mica Hand Book (Imperial Institute Series No. 19) and I also append some remarks by Mr. Holland in this connection:

"Micawaste in a compressed form has been used in the manufacture of insulators on telegraph poles (Handbook p. 4).

Other uses of mica waste are given on p. 5. ~~S mica~~ Since the handbook was written, specimens have been shown me in Calcutta by a Mr. Jones of Howrah of sheets intended as non-conducting boiler covers and made of mica-waste cemented with clay and moulded into curved sheets. Mr. Jones stated his intention to apply for a patent for the substance so manufactured.

Mica-waste has been used also as a basis

basis for soap in Bengal.

"Apparently one of the difficulties against the use of mica-waste for the above purposes was the power required to grind it into a powder; but ~~lately~~ lately such of this difficulty has been removed by heating the mica and throwing it into cold water; the irregular contraction following the sudden chilling splitting the cleavages bundles into minute fibres.

The stained mica of Nellore was not in favor because in the London market the specialists, who value the lots previous to sale, were in the habit of giving points for:—

(1) Elasticity of the plates.
(2) Transparency.
(3) Freedom from Crumplings
(4) —do— inclusions of foreign matter.

These were considered desirable characters evidently because most of the mica was formerly used as fire screens, peepholes in furnaces and other places where transparency is essential. During recent years, however, the rapid exhaustion of the American mines has driven the utilizers of mica to turn their attention to what was formerly regarded as valueless. Beyond the survival of market prejudice, there appears to be no theoretical reason for objecting to the stained mica of Ellikur (Vitukuru) in Nellore; the minute isolated films of iron-ore ought to have no deleterious effect on the steam used in dynamos. I have seen large sheets of it which in all

b all other respects are superior to the local which Sargent timed out at Inukurti. I am consequently not surprised to learn that the market prejudice has been broken down as a result of the increased demand for mica and that the stained mica of Nellore is now being used."

Resolution.

The papers will be submitted for the orders of Government.

2. In para 4 of its Proceedings No: 3116 dated 24th June 1896, the Mysore Board suggested that Mr Anderson, the mining specialist whom it was then proposed to post for geological work in this Presidency, should in addition to his other work, be asked to inspect and report on the mica-

mica-mining industry in Nellore. This suggestion was approved by Government in its Order No: 307 dated 1st August 1896. Mr Anderson however, subsequently resigned and it has been arranged that Mr Middlemiss, whose term of service in this Presidency was to expire in October 1897, should continue to work till 1900. On a reference made to Mr Middlemiss as to what arrangements he had made to inspect the mica-mines in Nellore, that officer states that the work proposed for Mr Anderson does not necessarily devolve upon him, that the superintendence of corundum workings in Salem and Coimbatore districts has taken all the time which he could spare from his regular survey work,

11 and

and that the sanction of the Director of Geological Survey is necessary for his undertaking any important work outside these districts.

(True Copy & Extract)

R. V. Sanjivarao
Secretary.

To

The Secretary to Government,
Revenue Department, with papers

When given for copying ____
When copied ____
When examined ____
When signed ____
} 189

READ AGAIN G.O., No. 189, DATED.

CURRENT

ENCLOSURES TO C. No.

ORDER OF GOVERNMENT	A	A	A	A	A	A	A
LETTER OF GOVERNMENT.							
STATEMENT WITH DITTO.							
PAPERS NOT FILED UP, BEING MEANT FOR DESPATCH IN ORIGINAL.							

N.B.—
A = Copy in full.
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