

Revenue (1898) Department.

MISCELLANEOUS SERIES.

G.O., No. 2753

DATED 29th June.

[Despatch Abstract.]

Sanctioning the grant of a lease
to Mr H. G. Turner to mine for
magnesite in certain mthys.
of the Salem dist on the conditions
stated by the B.

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 (1898) Department.

CURRENT No. 2731.

From

The Board of Revenue, Land
Revenue, Madras.

Order

No. 954 Mis.

Dated 2nd. April 1898

Received 5

Registered 6

Enclosures 9

Spare copies

SUBJECT.

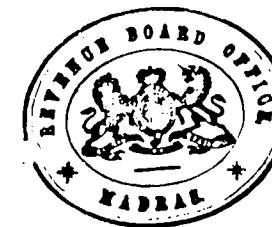
Passing orders on applications
from Messrs. Turner & Harcourt, Salem,
for leases for mining for magnesite
& chrome iron in Karunpur & other --
villages of the Salem Tk., Salem Dt.

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.



Proceedings of the Board of Revenue (Land Revenue).

NO.954 Misc. Dated 2nd. April 1898.

Read letter from Mr. Chas: J. Harcourt, J.P., Grafton -- House, Harborne, England, dated 14th December 1897. And the following -- reference thereon dated 14th January 1898.

Referred to the Collector of Salem for early report.

Read also letter from C.H. Mounsey Esqre., Ag. Collector of Salem to the Secretary to the Commissioners of Land Revenue, Madras, NO.634, dated 14th February 1898.

Read also letter from the same officer, Ref. No. --- 37-Petn. dated 7th March 1898.

Resolution

With his letters read above, the Collector of Salem submits with his remarks two applications for mining for magnesite and chrome iron in Karuppur and other villages of the Salem Taluk. One of the applications is from Mr. James Turner on behalf of Mr. H.G. Turner and is for an aggregate area of 1152 acres, including the --- whole (546.42 acres) of S.No.151 of Karuppur out of which Mr. H.G. --- Turner has already been granted a prospecting license for the same minerals for 188.2 acres. The other application is from Mr. Harcourt on behalf of a Birmingham Syndicate and is understood to be for the whole of survey No.151 of Karuppur.

2. The Collector supports Mr. Turner's application as -- he is the prior applicant and a prospecting licensee. He adds that, though some of the fields applied for by Mr. Turner are detached --

from the others, they practically form one block, the distance between the fields lying in the north and those in the South being about a mile. The total extent of the block being less than 2 square miles, the Collector considers that Mr. Turner's application fulfils the requirements of rules 36 & 37 of the revised S.O. No. 15. Apparently the Collector proposes to treat chrome iron as a mineral and to class both magnesite and chrome iron with "Coal" for purposes of the "maximum area" and "distance between grants to the same person".

3. As in Board's Proceedings No. 3852 Mis. dated 14th October 1897, magnesite and chrome iron have been treated as "metals" for purposes of royalty, the Board considers that the same course should be followed for determining the "maximum area to be granted" and the "distance between the grants to the same person". The concession to Mr. Turner should be reduced accordingly, more especially as the lands applied for by him form more than one block and there is another applicant. As the land applied for comprises 3 blocks of 877.78, 9.92 and 264.30 acres as shown -

1. Northern Block.

Village ----- S.No. -- Area

Karuppur	{ 4	43.81
	{ 151	546.42

Mungalpadi	68	287.55
		877.78

2. Central Block

Vellakhalpatti	113	9.92
----------------	-----	------

3. Southern Block

Vellakhalpatti	48	9.14
Manguppai	{ 43	13.72
	{ 16	112.75
Mullamuppampatti	126	128.63
		254.30

in the margin, and as the distance between the two main blocks is over half a mile, the Collector will be requested to give Mr. Turner, the prior applicant, a choice of block or blocks and to ascertain from Mr. Harcourt whether he is willing to take up the remaining area subject to the limitations prescribed in the rules.

4. In para 6 of his letter last read above, the Collector proposes to convert the

royalty of 2 ½ per cent on the "sale value at the pit's mouth of the dressed ore" sanctioned in G.O. No. 5310 dated 12th November 1897 into a fixed charge per ton. This proposal can be considered only after the lessee has submitted the usual brokers' sale certificates. Vide para 3 of Board's Proceedings No. 3852 Mis. dated 14th October 1897.

5. In para 7 of his letter last quoted, the Collector ~~proposes~~ refers to dead-rent and surface-rent. As regards dead-rent he says that it may not exceed the royalty and that the latter may be adopted. The rate proposed by him of one anna per ton cannot be adopted, as dead-rent is an acreage assessment. The minimum dead-rent prescribed by the Government of India for "other metals" is one --- Rupee per acre and the Board considers that this rate may be adopted in the present case. As regards surface-rent, the Board observes -

Villages.	Lowest dry rate. Rs. a. p.	that most of the lands are -
Karuppur	0. 6. 0	hill poramboke and that the
Mungalpadi	0. 6. 0	lowest dry assessment of the
Vellakhalpatti	0. 6. 0	villages ranges from 6 annas
Manguppai	1. 0. 0	to 1 Rupee as shown in the -
Mullamuppampatti	0. 8. 0	margin. The Board is of opi-
		nion that the lowest dry rate

of the respective villages may be adopted.

(True Copy & Extract)

Ree
Secretary.

TO

----- The Secretary to Govt., R.D., with the current & enclo. in origl. (to be returned)

The Collector of Salem.

Q.B.

Revenue (1898) Department.

CURRENT No. 527

From

The Board of Revenue, Land
Revenue, Madras.

Order

No. 1217 Mac.

Dated

Received 11

Registered 15

Enclosures 2

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SUBJECT.

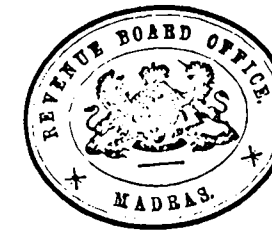
Passing orders on Mr. Hunter's
application for reconsideration of
Board's orders regarding the grant
of a mining lease for magnesite and
chrome iron in Salem.

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.



Proceedings of the Board of Revenue (Land Revenue).

NO. 1257 Misc. Dated 11th May 1898.

1st Letter from W.J.H. Leitch Esq., Collector of
S. to the Secretary to the Commissioners of Land Revenue, Madras
NO. 440-D.G., dated 25th April 1898.

Resolution.

Submitted by Government in continuation of Board's
Proceedings No. 954, dated 2nd April 1898.

2. In the P.O.'s Proceedings quoted the Board required
to sanction the Collector's recommendation to grant a mining lease
for no more than 1158 acres to Mr. H.G. Leitch, as it was pro-
posed to mine for chrome-iron as well as magnesite, and the rules
do not permit of an area of more than 1000 square miles being
assigned for mining for chrome-iron. Mr. Leitch not submitting his applica-
tion so far as chrome-iron is concerned, and asks that a lease should
be given for mining for magnesite alone.

3. From Mr. Leitch's report it would appear that
magnesite is the mineral most abundantly represented in the area

*36
P.V. of the reports on the in question, and in the experience of
magnesite areas near Salem &c. and Porto Novo Company is said
*37
P.V. in the same report to have shown
----- Do -----

that the export of the chrome-iron ore did not pay, which
seems no objection to disregarding the presence of magnesite in
this locality and treating the application as one for magnesite
only, especially as another deposit of chrome-iron is known to exist.

in such proximity to the Sultan Iron ore mine, it is probable that the iron ore is worked in this country, but it is doubtful whether it is suitable for use in the manufacture of steel.

4. The mining lease, now for the term of 10 years, has been granted for the manufacture of cement. It should be reported to the Mining Board for their consideration. There is no objection to the grant of a mining lease for the whole area applied for and the Mining Board have recommended --

Para. 1 of Letter of Govt. of India, dated 25.2.98, No. 600, printed in R.P. No. 461, dated 25.12.95.

5. The Mining Board have recommended that the application for mining lease may be granted for the whole area with an area of 1152 acres.

6. The Mining Board have recommended that the rate of one rupee per acre, proposed as the rate for the mining lease, is reasonable. If operations are carried on on any large scale, the rate will have to be increased. If operations are carried on on a large scale, there is no objection to the rate of one rupee per acre.

(Type Name)

Donel Davidson

As Secretary.

10

The Secretary to Government, Revenue Department with the Collector's Letter & its enclosure to be returned.
The Collector of Salem.

Q.E.

1. 11/11

Draft do

My dear Middlemiss.

I am directed to request the favour of an early reply to G.O. No 1563 dated the 4th April 1898. in which you were asked to state what is the Chief Commercial product extracted in the working of Magnesite and Chromite.

11/11/98
4.6.98

3/6/98

1. 11/11

Geological Survey of India,

Brin Cottage,

3th June 1903.

Dear Mr. [unclear],

Your D.O. of 7th June.

ing me to reply to D.G.O. No. 1363 of 4 April. I am afraid I have been very careless in not answering it before; but must plead in defence that I am now on leave, that my office is broken up, and that the modest reference library I have here (at my own personal expense) is all packed away.

However I shall do my best to reply with the fact to the questions, qualifying that reply with the fact that it is entirely out of my power to answer them fully.

At the same time I hope you will not take it amiss if I venture to suggest that such questions should not be put to me at all. In the first place they have no connection with simple geology and I am here not as an Economic reporter, but as a field geologist. In the second place almost any Cyclopædia, and certainly Mr. Watt's Dictionary of Economic Products (which the Madras Govt. have the advantage over me in possessing), would have answered the questions at once.

Forgive the analogy, but one does not call in the P.O. to a case of measles, or to spell the word diarrhoea.

My official reply will go tomorrow.

Yrs sincerely,
(Sd) J.S. Haddeniss.

67
10-6-98

Recd
10/6/98

Dear Mr Middlemiss
Yours do.

of the 8th inst seems
objectionable in tone &
conceded in improper
language ^{scarcely begun} & return it
therefor ^{in immediate} for ~~such~~ such
amendment
revisions as you may
think fit to make therein
after further consideration
before submitting it
for the order of the
Govt.

W
10/6/98
10/6/98

W
Take copy of Mr W's do
before sending it back
W

Revenue (1898) Department.

CURRENT No.

From

*The Superintendent,
Geological Survey of India
Ootacamund.*

Order

No.

Dated 10 June

Received 11 "

Registered 13 "

Enclosures /.

Spare copies.

SUBJECT.

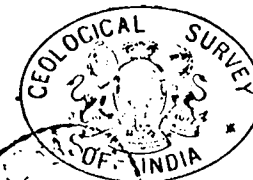
*Mentioning some of the
principal economic uses of
magnetite and chromite.*

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.



10th June 1898
 Elia Collage
 Colacamund

Dear Sir

In reply to your D.O. of
 the 7th inst. I herewith send
 under separate cover
 my reply as requested to
 D.S.O. No 1563 of 4th Apr. 98.

Yours truly

C.S. Hindenburg

L. Stokes Esq

228
 21/11/1898
 11/11/1898

No.

Office of the Superintendent,

GEOLOGICAL SURVEY OF INDIA

(Madras Presidency), Ootacamund.

FROM

C. S. MIDDLEMISS, ESQ., B.A.,

SUPERINTENDENT, GEOLOGICAL SURVEY OF INDIA,

~~can~~ Ootacamund

Via () Dt.),

TO

Gabriel Stokes Esq. M.C.S. &c.

Secty. to the Government of Madras
Revenue Department.

Dated 10th June 1898.

SIR,

In reply to D.G.O. No. 1563 dated 4th April 1898 asking me to state "what is the chief commercial product extracted in the working of magnesite and chromite" I have the honour to say that as regards the former (magnesite) the chief commercial products are, magnesia and epsom salts. Magnesite is also used in making fire-proof linings for furnaces, and it may be used for the manufacture of carbonic acid for soda-water. I believe that a Birmingham firm are also using the mineral in the manufacture of artificial building material, by mixing it with shavings, sand, street-sweepings &c. and moulding it into blocks.

As regards chromite, "the
 " compounds of chromium which are
 " largely used as pigments are chiefly
 " prepared from it. Of these the
 " yellow chromate and the red bi-
 " chromate of potash are the best
 " known. From them chromic acid,
 " the green oxide of chromium, the
 " blue oxide of chromium, chromate
 " of lead and other compounds are
 " obtained. These include among
 " them some of the most brilliant
 " and valuable pigments among those
 " which are employed in the arts."
 (Ball - Man. Geol. of India pt. III.)

I have the honour to add that,
 as a geologist, I have no personal
 experience of the commercial side
 of the above questions, and that
 any incompleteness in the above
 reply must be understood to be
 due to the fact that I am now

on leave, without any office, or
 reference library where any general
 works on arts and manufactures
 could be consulted.

I have the honour to be

Sir

Your most obedient servant

C. S. Smith

Suplt. Geol. Survey, Ind.

1898.

Geological Survey of India.

From

C. S. MIDDLEMISS, Esq., B.A.,

SUPERINTENDENT,

GEOLOGICAL SURVEY OF INDIA,

Camp

Botacumund

To The Secy. to Govt.

Revenue Dept.

Stokehouse

Dated 10.6.98

Received

Despatched

No.

ENCLOSURE.

SUBJECT.

Mentioning some of the
principle economic
uses of magnesite &
chromite.

Read C.No. 2731 of 1898
B.P. (L.R.) no 954 ^{miss} ~~trans~~
dated 2.4.98

For orders.

In the above
current, the Board of Revenue
has passed orders on two appli-
cations for the grant of leases
to mine for magnesite and
chromite in certain villages
of the Salem Taluk received
from (1) Mr. James Twiss
on behalf of Mr H. G. Turner
late of the Madras Civil
Service and (2) Mr. Charles
J. Harcourt of Birmingham
on behalf of a syndicate
formed there for the purpose.
The Board's views are:—

(1) That the 'maximum area'
of a mining block for
magnesite and chromite
should be fixed as in the
Case of 'metals' in the
Schedule A of the Imperial
Mining rules, at $\frac{1}{2}$ a sq.
mile. The Collector ^{having} ~~proposed~~
apparently proposes to place

in page 17 of the pamphlet
put up

1898

these minerals in the same category as 'Coal' for which the maximum area ^{for mining} has been fixed at 2 sq. miles.

(2) That the ^{minimum} distance between mining grants to the same person should be fixed at half a mile as in the case of 'metals' in Schedule A. of the Mining Rules.

in page 17 of the pamphlet put up.

(3) That the dead rent be fixed at one Rupee per acre ^{which is the minimum} prescribed by the Govt of India in the case of metals other than gold, silver and iron and which has already been adopted in the case of mica.

Schedule B in page 17 do

* para 49 & Co. in 618 13.11.98: G

(4) That the surface rent to be levied be fixed at the lowest dry rate of the village in which the lands lie, most of the lands applied for being hill poramboke.

Mr. Turner who is the prior applicant and also a prospecting licensee, asks for

the grant of 1152 acres. but as the blocks applied ^{by him} for do not fulfill the conditions regarding 'maximum area' & distance between grants the Board of Revenue has instructed the Collector to give Mr. Turner a choice of such block or blocks as would be unobjectionable under the rules, and to ascertain and report if Mr. Harcourt is willing to take up the remaining area subject to the limitations prescribed. It is submitted that the Board's views may be accepted and its instructions to the Collector approved.

As regards the royalty on Magnesite and Chromite, Mr. Turner again complains of the rate already fixed namely '2½ per cent on the sale value at the pit's mouth of the dressed ore.'

A reference has been made to Mr. Middleton

on the subject was in G.O.
No 1563 dated 4.4.98 and
the Board may, it is sub-
mitted, be perhaps informed
that the question (raised
in B.P. no 258 & 27.1.98)
is still under ^{the} consideration
of Govt.

H.

in G.O. 1563
4.4.98 K.

Mr
23/4/98

P. J. J.

What was this

(1) G.O. sent? Mr Middle-
miss is on leave, is he not?

Mr
28/4/98

(1) The G.O. was despatched to
Mr. Middlemiss on the 6th April.
It was ~~to~~ not then known from what
date he was to avail himself
of leave. From the Director's
letter in C.O. 3097/96, received
on the 25th inst, it would appear
that Mr. Middlemiss's leave had
commenced earlier than the 4th
April, i.e. the date of the Director's
letter.

M.

Mr
29/4/98

Where was the order
sent? And Mr. is at office.
Mr
6.5.98

5
The order was despatched from
Madras to Ootacamund. (see
see Madras despatches slip the
Mr

See

The Mr's instructions seem
sound & may be approved.
A reminder (or better a D.
might go to Mr Middlemiss
about the whole ref. to
the question referred to
him in G.O. 1563 & 4th April

Mr
16.5.98

7.5.98

Mr
29/5/98

Please see separate note submitted
with ref. to C.O. 3547/98. Since then

Mr
29/5/98

Read C No. 273107/1898-

B.P. (L.R.) $\frac{10954}{2.4.98}$

C No 35479/1898.

B.P. (L.R.) $\frac{101257}{11.5.98}$

For orders.

On behalf of as

Mr W.G. Turner who was granted a license to prospect for magnesite and Chromite over 188.2 acres

in S. No. 151 of Karuppur village in the Salem Taluk, his brother, Mr James Turner,

K₂ applied to the Collector in December last for the grant of a lease to mine for the same minerals in four detached plots measuring 1152 acres in all and including the area covered by the prospecting license. Subsequently, an application was also received from Mr. C. J. Harcourt on behalf of a Birmingham Syndicate, for the grant of a lease to mine for magnesite

C

1876/98.

chromite over an area which was understood to be the whole of S. No 151 of Kauppen, included in Mr Turner's application.

2. The Collector, Mr Mounsey thought that Mr Turner who was the prior applicant and also a prospecting licensee should be given preference and that as the total area applied for is 1152 acres

did not exceed (259 miles) fixed in the Govt of India's rules for coal mining leases, his request might be granted.

3. The Board of Revenue however in its Progs 82498 No 954 remarked that magnesite and chromite having been classed as 'metals' for purposes of fixing the royalty, the restrictions imposed in the case of 'metals' in the Imperial Mining rules, as regards the maximum

distance between grants to the same person should be applied and it accordingly instructed the Collector to give Mr Turner a choice of such of the plots as would not contravene the rules and to ascertain and report if Mr Turner was ^{now} willing to take up the remaining area.

4. From his letter submitted with the second of the currents read above it appears that Mr Turner is ^{however} unwilling to give up any portion of the area which he had applied for. He attempts to get over the restrictions as to 'maximum area to be granted' which the Board wanted to impose by saying that he does not want a lease to mine for chromite which he now admits has been rightly classed as a metal, and that he would have a lease of the whole area for mining for magnesite which he contends is more valuable to Coal than to any other

See 206 A 11 1917
9th

stone or metal, ~~is not~~ and
cannot be classed under
'metals' in Schedule A. of the
Mining Rules.

5. The Board of Revenue
now supports Mr Turner's
request and observes as
follows:—

"From Mr Middlemiss's
"report it would appear
"that magnesite is the mineral
"most abundantly represented
"in the areas in question and
"as the experience of the old
"Dona Novo Company is said
"to have shown that the ex-
"port of the Crude Chromite
"ore did not pay, there seems
"no objection to disregarding
"the presence of Chromite in
"this locality and treating the
"application for magnesite
"only - especially as another
"deposit of Chromite is known
"to exist in close proximity
"to the Salem iron ore and it
"is only when the iron ore is
"smelted in this country
"that any demand for

portion of the area of
of the Salem iron ore
R.

portion of the area of
of the Salem iron ore
R.

page 671. do

11
"Chromite is likely to arise
"for use in the manufacture
"of steel.
"Magnesite being used,
"not for the extraction of the
"metal, but for the manufac-
"ture of Cement, it should be
"regarded as a mineral rather
"than as a metal and there
"is no objection to the grant of
"the whole area applied
"for and as Mr H. G. Turner
"has prospected over a portion
"of the land and is also the
"prior applicant, the Board
"as at present constituted a-
"grees with the Collectors
"(Messrs Inoumsey & Le Franc)
"in considering that the appli-
"cation for mining leases may
"be granted for all the three
"blocks with an aggregate
"area of 1152 acres."

In the first place, it would
appear from Mr Middlemiss's
report that ^{although} Chromite may
perhaps be less abundant than
magnesite in the areas in
question, the Chromite is

R.

close by interwoven with the
magnetite bands and it
is not therefore clear how
Mr. Turner will avoid removal
of chromite in carrying
on mining operations in
respect of magnetite.
Under rule ³³[23](1) of the
Govt of India's mining rules,
however, it will be seen that
if after having taken out
a lease in respect of magne-
site, Mr. Turner should
discover any other mineral
he will have to pay royalty
therefor at such rate, not
being less than 20 per cent
of the value thereof, as the
Local Govt may determine
until a mining lease has
been obtained in respect
of such mineral. In
withdrawing his application
so far as mining for chromite
is concerned, Mr. Turner says
that the existence of the
mineral on the land in question
is doubtful and that there

page 13 of the paper
with the
part of

See 39[23](i) & 33[17] last two
lines 8/2

13 20s tons per annum in England.
If however, in the course of
mining for magnetite, chro-
mite also should be found
and removed in fair quantities
the necessity for taking out
a mining lease in respect of
such mineral subject to the
restrictions as to maximum of
area &c. will arise unless
Mr. Turner chooses ^{to pay} a heavy
royalty of not less than 20
per cent of the value thereof.
Perhaps this may be pointed
out to the Board of Revenue.
Dudley, in recommending the
grant of the whole area of
1152 acres for to Mr. Turner
on a mining lease for magne-
site, the Board is now of
opinion that as pointed out
by Mr. Turner, magnetite ^{should} ~~is not~~
not be classed as a 'metal'
as it is ^{not} ~~used~~ ^{not} for extract-
ing the metal, magnesium, in
of it, but for the manufac-
ture of cement, and that the
restrictions as to maximum
area &c. ~~are not~~ ^{are not} reported, but

in respect of 'metals' need
 not be adopted,
 The ~~proposed~~ manufacture
 of a water cement from the
 Salem magnesite by mixing
 it, when calcined, with a
 solution of chloride of magnesia
 is referred to in Dr. Wall's
 Dictionary of Economic
 products vol V p. 109, as the
industrial use of the mineral.
 Mr. Middlemiss has however
 been asked in G.O. No 1563 d
 4.4.98. to state 'what is
 the Chief Commercial product
 extracted in the working
 of magnesite & Chromite.
 He ^{is upon leave} has not yet replied
 to the reference. A reminder
 may be sent to him now as
 suggested by the U.S. in the
 note on C.O. 2731/98, and his
 reply may perhaps be
 awaited before approving
 of the Board's present recom-
 mendation.

Flag X

See apparently an answer
 G.O. 1563 d 4.4.98 Flag H must
 be submitted before this question
 is decided. I submit Mr. Middle-

in page 18 of the Govt of India's
 rule in the pamphlet.

15
 H
 Mr. Middlemiss's reply to
 G.O. No 1563 dated 4.4.98 is
 contained in C.O. 4183 of 1898.
 From the notes under that G.O.
 it will be seen that Mr. Turner
 having raised the question
 why the rate of royalty on
 magnesite and Chromite
 should not be fixed at half
 anna per ton as in the case
 of iron, instead of at $2\frac{1}{2}$
 per cent ad. valorem ^{which is} the
 rate prescribed in Schedule
 C of the Govt of India's rules,
 for 'other metals', Mr. Middle-
 miss was asked to state
 what was the Chief Commer-
 cial product extracted in
 the working of magnesite
 and Chromite and His Exce-
 llency remarked that if
 iron was extracted, the case
 'would come under iron' and
 'if' magnesite and chrome, the
 'case would come under
 'other metals.' Mr. Mi-
^{now}miss says that ~~and~~ being
 a field geologist and not
 an economic reporter, he

See

Please in draft

personal, no experience of the Commercial side of the questions referred to him. As regards Chromite, he merely gives an extract from Ball's economic geology of India which was already referred to by the secretary in the note under G.O. no 1583 dt 4.4.98 and from which it will appear that iron is not the chief Commercial product extracted from Chromite, but that it is valued chiefly for the Chrome pigments. It is therefore submitted that the rate of royalty to be levied on Chromite may be fixed at the same rate as that for 'other metals', as has been done by the Board of Revenue.

As regards Magnesite^(i.e. magnesium carbonate), it does not contain iron, but the metal 'magnesium' which is not however extracted from it for Commercial purposes.

Mr Middlemiss says that the chief Commercial

Watts' Dictionary Vol V.
page 109.

17 products extracted from it are magnesia (the oxide of magnesium) & Epsom salts (the sulphate of magnesium) which are largely employed in European medicine. He adds that magnesite is used for ~~proof~~ making fire-proof linings for furnaces, for the manufacture of an artificial building material and that it may be used for the manufacture of carbonic acid for soda water. Now the question is whether magnesite should be classed in metals other than gold, silver and iron for purposes of royalty under schedule C and with metals other than gold & silver, for purposes of determining the maximum area to be granted & the distance between grants to the same person under schedule A.

para 17 of the pamphlet

para 5 of B.P. in
CM 3547/98

The Board of Revenue propose to charge the royalty at the rate fixed for other metals in schedule C, but arranged for purposes of

Schedule

Schedule A, it thinks that
 magnesite should ^{not} be classed
 as a 'metal' but as a
 mineral, to which the restric-
 tions as regards maximum
 area, &c are inapplicable;
 the reason being that it is
 not used for extracting
 the metal ~~for~~ magnesium
 from it but for the manufac-
 ture of cement.

For orders as to whether the
 Board's view may be approved.

1576/58

Sey

The rate of royalty
 for chromite was seen
 to be properly $2\frac{1}{2}\%$ ad
 valorem. As regards
 magnesite, the Board's
 proposal ~~to regard it~~

as "other metal" for
 to charge at $2\frac{1}{2}\%$ ad valorem
 but, at the same time not to regard it as a metal
 is to free it from the
 restrictions
 relating to area,
 blocks, distance apart &c

may be accepted. This course
 was adopted with regard to mica, only the rate of royalty was 5%
 (all letters for 27th Nov 1958)
 1576/58

19

To Under Secy.

Please see draft
 G.O. submitted below for
 approval.

Per

25-6-58

Issued

27/6/58

23.6.58

27/6/58

A Read of ... no 1563 d 4.4.98
 Q B.P. no 9 d 2.4.98 (C. no 2731)
 Q 1257 1/ 5.98 (C. no 354)
 A letter from the Sup. Geological
 Survey, India d 10.6.98 (C. no 4183)

G.O. no. 2753 d 29th June 98.

The grant of a lease
 to Mr H. L. Turner to mine
 for magnesite over an area
 of 1,152 acres in Varnappur
 and other villages of the Salem
 taluk is sanctioned subject
 to the conditions prescribed
 by the Board of Revenue in
 its Prop no 954 mic d 2.4.98
 as modified by its Prop no
 1257 d 11.5.98. The Govt
 sees no reason to reduce the
 rate of royalty fixed by the
 Board for magnesite and
 chromite, viz, $2\frac{1}{2}$ p.c ad
valorem.

1000 8
 29.61
 8/2/98
 (From orders)
 The B. of Revue (L. R.)
 under me

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closely interwoven with the magnesite bands and it is not therefore clear how Mr Turner will avoid removal of chromite in carrying on mining operations in respect of magnesite.

Under rule ³⁹[23](1) of the Govt of India's mining rules, however, it will be seen that if after having taken out a lease in respect of magnesite, Mr Turner should discover any other mineral he will have to pay royalty therefor at such rate, not being less than 20 per cent of the value thereof, as the Local Govt may determine until a mining lease has been obtained in respect of such mineral. In withdrawing his application so far as mining for chromite is concerned, Mr Turner says that the existence of the mineral on the lands in question is doubtful and that there

page 20. The same

page 13. the same

2 39[23](i): & 33[17] last two

8/2

13

20s lbs per annum in England. If however, in the course of mining for magnesite, chromite also should be found and removed in fair quantities the necessity for taking out a mining lease in respect of such mineral subject to the restrictions as to maximum area &c. will arise unless Mr Turner chooses ^{to pay} a heavy royalty of not less than 20 per cent of the value thereof.

Perhaps this may be pointed out to the Board of Revenue. Dudley, in recommending the grant of the whole area of 1152 acres for to Mr Turner on a mining lease for magnesite, the Board is now of opinion that as pointed out by Mr Turner, magnesite ^{should} ~~is~~ not be classed as a 'metal' as it is ^{not} ~~is~~ used for extracting the metal, magnesium, of it, but for the manufacture of Cement, and that the restrictions as to maximum area &c. applicable to

in respect of 'metals' need
not be adopted,

The ~~proposed~~ manufacture
of a water cement from the
Salem magnesite by mixing
it, when calcined, with a
solution of chloride of magnesia
is referred to in Dr. Wall's
Dictionary of Economic
products vol V p. 109, as the
industrial use of the mineral.

Mr. Middlemiss has however
been asked in G.O. No 1563 D
4.4.98. to state 'what is
the Chief Commercial product
extracted in the working
of Magnesite & Chromite.'

^{is upon hand}
He has not yet replied
to the reference. A reminder
may be sent to him now as
suggested by the U.S. in the
note on C.O. 2731/88, and his
reply may perhaps be
awaited before approving
of the Board's present recom-
mendation.

20/5/98
Apparently an answer
G.O. 1563 D 4.4.98. H. H. must
be awaited before any question
can be settled. I submit Mr. Wall's
note may be sent to him as suggested.

Flag X

in page 184 of the ~~first~~ ^{second} edition
of the pamphlet.

H

15
Mr. Middlemiss's reply to
G.O. No 1563 dated 4.4.98 is
contained in C.O. 4183 of 1898
From the notes under that G.O.
it will be seen that Mr. Turner
having raised the question
why the rate of royalty on
magnesite and chromite
should not be fixed at half-
anna per ton as in the case
of iron, instead of at $2\frac{1}{2}$
per cent a.d. valorem ^{which is} the
rate prescribed in schedule
C of the Govt of India's rules,
for 'other metals', Mr. Middle-
miss was asked to state
what was the Chief Commer-
cial product extracted in
the working of magnesite
and chromite and His Excel-
lency remarked that if
iron was extracted, the case
'would come under iron' and
'if' magnesia and chrome, the
'case would come under
'other metals.' Mr. Middle-
miss ^{now} says that ~~and~~ being
a field geologist and not
an economic reporter, he

personal,
no experience of the Commercial
'side' of the questions referred
to him. As regards Chro-
mite, he merely ^{gives} ~~gives~~
an extract from Ball's
economic geology of India
which was already referred
to by the secretary in the
note under G.O. No 1583 D
4.4.98 and from which it
will appear that iron is
not the chief Commercial
product extracted from
Chromite, but that it is
valued chiefly for the
Chrome pigments. It
is therefore submitted that
the rate of royalty to be levied
on Chromite may be fixed
at the same rate as that
for 'other metals', as has
been done by the Board of Revenue.

As regards Magnesite ^(i.e. magnesium carbonate) it
does not contain iron, but the
metal 'magnesium' which
is not however extracted from
it for Commercial purposes.

Mr Abdolles says that
the chief Commercial
product

Watts' Dictionary Vol V.
page 109.

17 ^{products} Extracts from it are magnesia
(the oxide of magnesium) & ~~epson~~
salts (the sulphate of magnesium)
which are largely employed
in European medicine. He
adds that magnesite is used
for ~~porcelain~~ making fire-
proof linings for furnaces,
for the manufacture of an
artificial building material
and that it may be used
for the manufacture of
Carbonic acid for soda water
Now the question is whether ~~ma-~~
gnesite should be classed in
metals other than gold, silver
and iron for purposes of
Royalty under Schedule C
and with metals other than
gold & silver, for purposes of
determining the maximum
area to be granted & the distance
between grants to the same
person under Schedule A.

para 17 of the pamphlet

para 5 of B.P. in
C.M. 3547/98

The Board of Revenue propose
to charge the royalty at
the rate fixed for other
metals in Schedule C, but
~~arranged~~ for purposes of
Schedule

Schedule A, it thinks that
magnetite should ^{not} be classed
~~as~~ as a 'metal' but as a
mineral, to which the restric-
tions as regard maximum
area, &c are inapplicable,
the reason being that it is
not used for extracting
the metal ~~for~~ magnesium
from it but for the manufac-
ture of cement.

For orders as to whether the
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1576/88

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~~as "other metal"~~ for
to charge at $2\frac{1}{2}\%$ ad valorem
purpose of royalty, but, at the same time not to regard it as a metal
as to free it from the
as a mineral" for purposes
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1576/88

19

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Wkr

25-6-98

Issue

22/6/98

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29.6.98

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29/6/98

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