

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Marine DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No.

411

Press

~~Mis.~~

Dated

29 9.

18 *57*

Not to be folded or roughly handled

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Fort Saint George, Marine Consultation, 29th September 1857.

No. 46. From Mr. C. A. GRACE; to E. MALTBY, Esq., Acting Chief Secretary to Government, dated 22nd September 1857.

SIR,

I have the honor to beg your kind attention to the following, as it will show you the great trouble and inconvenience to which I am put in trying to obtain possession from the Custom House of a Case containing six Revolver Pistols.

The Pistols in question were Shipped to my consignment by a private friend in London and arrived here on 7th Instant, per Steamer "Nubia"; immediately on their arrival I wrote to the Collector of Customs requesting him to deliver the said Case to me, upon which he replied asking me if the Pistols were for sale or private use; I answered him that they were for private sale, or that I purposed handing some of them to a dealer. Up to the 19th Instant, I received no reply to my application, but having called several times at the Custom House was informed that my application had been forwarded to Government. On the latter date however, I again wrote to the Collector of Customs, who informed me that Government had sent no reply, that Evening however I received another communication informing me that Government had sanctioned the delivery to me of *one* of the Pistols as a Muster; one was of no use to me, however, as there are two or three kinds, and I therefore went personally to the Custom House this Morning, where after waiting for *two hours* and having the Case opened, I was informed that I might have two of the Pistols, but must declare the price at the market price, not at the Invoice value, otherwise they could not be delivered to me. Now as I do not wish to dispose of these as a Merchant, and am quite unable to say what I may procure for them, it is therefore not possible for me to sell before hand; I have therefore had to leave the Pistols although quite willing to have declared afterwards the exact proceeds.

Having therefore failed in my attempts to obtain possession of the Pistols, and having suffered much inconvenience, as well as great loss of time, which latter interferes much with my regular Office duties, I must now request your kind attention and assistance in the matter, as I feel quite unable myself to obtain possession of the Pistols, or to take any further steps in the matter.

In order to avoid further trouble, I beg most respectfully to offer five of the said "Adam's Revolver" Pistols to Government with Case and Implements complete at the rate of Rupees 140 each, and have to request that the remaining one of the large size may be delivered to me for my own use as a Member of the Cavalry Volunteer Corps.

With every apology for this trouble.

(Signed) CHAS. A. GRACE.

No. 47. ORDER THEREON, No. 411; dated 29th September 1857.

Referred to Colonel Balfour, who will state whether the five Pistols offered by Mr. Grace, for sale to Government, may be purchased at the price demanded.

2. Mr. Grace may have the Pistol he asks for at the conclusion of his letter.

Exd. J. A. Wilson.

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For C^o George,
29 September 1857-3

To the Insp. Gen. of Ordn & Mags
" Collector of Sea Customs
" C. A. Grace Esq - Madras.

Dispd. 5th