M.R.O. 14—10,000—21-4-22.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue **DEPARTMENT.**

G.O. No. 627 — Press — Mis.

379. 320

Dated 18 - 3 - 1861.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department, 18th March 1861.

No. 319. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 12th March 1861, No. 1,359:—

Read the following letter from W. E. COCHRANE, Esq., Collector of Sea Customs, to J. D. SIM, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, Fort Saint George, dated Madras, 23rd January 1861, No. 28.

SIR,

1. Adverting to the last list of unanswered letters, assigning in the remark column as the cause of delay in disposing of letter from the Secretary to the Board of Revenue to my predecessor's address, dated 18th June 1859, No. 2,330, "the revision of the Tariff," I have the honor to report that the Statement therein proposed to be framed for the guidance of the Out-ports does not now appear to be necessary, the rates of duty under Act X of 1860, with a few exceptions, being 10 per cent. for import and 3 per cent. for export goods.

2. The want of a Custom House Guide, however, has long been felt, and I take the liberty of suggesting that a publication similar to the Calcutta one, which I enclose,* be printed here, which will serve as a guide to the Customs' Officers in the Maritime Districts, and the information it will contain will be of general use both to the mercantile community, as well as to commanders of vessels trading here.

* *To be returned.*

3. I would propose that the publication should contain, 1st., The Sea Custom House Rules sanctioned by Government on the 31st January 1851, corrected up to the present time; 2nd., The By-laws of the Custom House based upon the Orders of Government, the Board of Revenue, and the Departmental Orders of the Collector. It will be seen that several of the Calcutta rules have been introduced, which may advantageously be adopted at this Presidency. The By-laws* which have been arranged by the Head Manager, under my supervision, I enclose for approval; and 3rd., The last Customs Act, the revised Import and Export Tariffs, the Port Dues Acts, to conclude with a copious Index, and if the Board think it necessary, Act VI of 1844 and Act XXV of 1836 might be added. The Index, the Head Manager has undertaken to prepare.

* *Vide enclosure.*

4. Should the Board approve of the proposition to have the Guide, such as I have described it, printed, it will afford me pleasure by the Board of Revenue giving the measure every encouragement which they deem it deserving of.

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1. The Board consider that a publication such as the Collector proposes, would be extremely useful.

2. The Board observe, however, that in Extract Minutes Consultation, dated 2nd February 1857, Revenue Department, No. 124, Government expressed their intention of having a Customs Manual prepared in their Office.

In Cons. 20th February 1857, No. 526.

3. The Board resolve therefore in the first instance, to submit the Collector's letter for the consideration and orders of Government.

(A true Copy and Extract.)

(Signed) J. D. SIM, *Secretary.*

No. 320. ORDER THEREON, 18th March 1861, No. 627.

The Government approve the proposal to compile and publish a "Sea Custom House Guide" for Madras. It should be revised and approved by the Board of Revenue before publication.

(Signed) J. D. BOURDILLON,
Secretary to Government.

Burton

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every encouragement which they deem it deserving of

Sea Custom House,
Madras, 23d January
1861.

I have &c.a
(Signed) W. E. Cochrane
Collector of Sea Custo

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(A true Copy & Extract.)

Secretary.

To
J. D. Bourdillon, Esqre
Secretary to Government,
Revenue Department.
with Original Enclosures

Compd
C. Burton

2°/6 Feb 1857 pp 36-37

Proceedings of the Board of Revenue

Dated 17th Mar 1861.
Despd 12 Mar 1861.
Rec'd [illegible]
Encls 2 - Sheets 2 Books

No. 1359.

Submitting for consideration & orders with the Board's opinion a letter from the Collector of Sea Customs, Madras proposing the publication of a Custom House Guide, similar to the Calcutta one & forwarding for approval the Bye Laws arranged by the Head Manager. -

Pro of the Board of Revenue Aprl 1st & No 932 in Prs: 23d April No: 915.

No 319 & 320-

No. 627. 18th Mar 1861. Mr. Elliott

Write an order

Pro: of Govt [illegible] for March

No 675

Proceedings of the Board of Revenue

No 627.

The Govt approve the proposal to compile and publish a "Sea Custom House Guide" for Madras. It should be revised & approved by the Board of Revenue before publication.

Fort St Geo: 18th March 1861.

13 Copies to the Board of Revenue with 2 Encls

Octr 19