M.R.O. 14—10,000—21-4-22.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No.	909	Press Mis.
374-375		
Dated	22-4-1861.	

Not to be folded or roughly handled

No. 374. Read the following letter from C. E. MIRUS, Chairman, Chamber of Commerce, Cochin, to T. PYCROFT, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George, Madras, dated Cochin, 3rd April 1861 :—

SIR,

1. I addressed the Secretary to the Board of Revenue, on the 22nd of December, representing to him the great loss sustained by the mercantile community of this place, on account of the sudden introduction of the new export Tariff, which raised the value of our staple Cocoanut oil nearly five-fold, and also materially increased the duty on all other produce.

2. It is customary to make contracts for goods to be shipped on two or three months' delivery, and oil especially must be stored for some time in casks, to make the latter safe for shipment. As the mercantile community had not the slightest intimation that such a great alteration in the Tariff was contemplated, the first cost of their purchases was based on calculations including the old Tariff, and the loss sustained by the different establishments on all goods thus contracted for before the 28th December (the date that the Government Gazette with the new Tariff became law here) and cleared afterwards, may amount from 14 to 15,000 Rupees, a loss very heavy indeed considering the small number who have to bear it.

3. This Chamber would, therefore, beg that Government will kindly consider the justice of the Merchants' claim, to receive a return of duty on such goods as can be clearly proved to have been purchased before the promulgation of the new Tariff, and should the Madras Government be unable to act in this matter, desires that the whole question may be laid before the Supreme Government.

No. 375. ORDER THEREON, 22nd April 1861, No. 909.

This Government is not competent to give the relief sought in this letter, and the Governor in Council declines to make a representation to the Government of India on the subject. It is open to the complaining parties, however, to address that Government direct, if they should see fit.

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

Rec^d 10 December 1860 & c. 150, 151

Recd 1861 Sept^b
Pro: of Govt for April.
No 922.

From the Chairman
Chamber of
Commerce,
Cochin.-

Date 3^d "
Sep^d "
Rec^d 16^th " April
1861.

Encl: none

From the Secy to the Govt of India
Dep^t Dated 6th March 1861 with

Requesting that the rates
of duty according to the new
Export Tariff may not be levied
on such goods as can be clearly
proved to have been purchased
before the promulgation of the
above Tariff.

No. 374 & 375.

No. 909-22^d April

No 909.

This Government is not
competent to give the relief sought
in this letter, and the Governor
in Council declines to make
a representation to the Govt
of India on the subject. It
is open to the complaining
parties, however, to address
that Government direct, if
they should see fit.

Fort St George:
22^d April 1861

Copy to the Collr of Malabar Dis^t 22^d
" Chamber of Com^e Cochin
Bd of Rev^e

Lieut: writer
in Council.