M.R.O. 14—10,000—21-4-22.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue **DEPARTMENT.**

G.O. No. 446-447	Press / Mis.
567 s 69	
Dated 28 2 1862	

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department, 28th February 1862.

No. 567. Read the following letter from G. S. FORBES, Esq., Collector of Ganjam, to J. D. SIM, Esq, Secretary to Government, Revenue Department, Fort Saint George, dated Chetterpoie, 12th February 1862, No. 28:—

SIR,

1. I have the honor to submit herewith, for the information of His Excellency the Governor in Council, translation of a Kyfeat taken from Bhalanaiko, Bhagavan Naiko and Bhoggo, Brinjaries of Chettisghur, engaged in the Salt carrying trade, complaining that in no less than four places a tax is levied from them as particularized in the margin* and stating that a number of the Brinjary tribe have determined to retire altogether from the trade owing to the weight of these imposts added to the recent enhancement in the price of Salt.

* Gunpur.
Doorgee.
Vissumkota.
Nagpore.

2. The toll collected at three places in the Jeypoor country is of course Megal, and I have written to beg the Agent in Vizagapatam will take vigorous measures to stop it.

3. I have also addressed the Commissioner of Nagpore on the subject it would appear that this Officer treats Salt purchased at our monopoly Depôts as if it were foreign imported Salt and exacts the Calcutta rate of excise, such at least I conjecture to be the grounds on which the Commissioner acts; if this idea is correct the impost is surely no more sanctioned by law than the collections levied in Jeypore for the benefit of the Zamíndár.

4. The Brinjary traders have always carried Salt from the coast of Coromandel to the inland Provinces of Mysore, Hyderabad and Nagpore, and they are in fact among the principal purchasers, so that a defection on their part would be followed by a diminished Salt Revenue in the Districts frequented by them.

5. There was every reason to count with confidence under the present enhanced rates of sale, on a Salt Revenue of between 11 and 12 lacs of Rupees: in this District it is, therefore, a matter of great importance to give the inland traders fair play.

Kyfeat taken by the Salt Superintendent of Nowpada from Baloje Naiko, Bhagavan Naiko, son of Bhema Naiko, and Gomastah Karoobalibhagun, Brinjaries of Chetteesghur, on the 1st February 1862.

1. Whenever we carry Salt to Chetteesghur, the Head of Police of Gunpur levies there a duty of 2 Rupees on every hundred bullocks.

2. Again near the village of Doorgee the Zamíndár of Jeypoor levies through his servants a similar duty of 2 Rupees on every hundred bullocks.

3. At Vissumkota again a duty of Rupees 4-8-0 is levied on every hundred bullocks.

4. The Collector of Nagpore levies in his Hoozoor a duty of Rupees 4-8 on each bullock load of Salt. The duties in the abovementioned places except at Nagpore have been usually levied for a long time; the Collector of Nagpore has recently ordered the duty to be levied and granted a Ferwan prohibiting the levy of duty in any other place, but the Samuttar at Rayegada, without regarding the above Ferwanah, which we showed him levied on our empty bullocks a duty of 19 Rupees and gave us a receipt for it. In other stations also the duty was demanded, but we came away promising to pay it on our return with Salt laden bullocks, and we shall have to pay it accordingly.

Besides this the price of Salt at this place was formerly Rupees 11-4 per Salaga (or 40 Madras mercals), and subsequently it was raised to Rupees 12 and odd, at present it has been increased to Rupees 16-14-0.

The recent enhanced price and the levy of duties in so many places leave us no profit, the principal dealers have, therefore, given up their dealings in Salt, and advised us to follow their example.

We forty families have, however, come here with 2,000 bullocks in the hope of representing this to the authorities and then come to some determination. If the Government be pleased

either to do away with the abovementioned duties or reduce the price of Salt to former rate, we shall be able to continue our dealings in Salt as usual; we present the Ferwanah granted to us by the Collector of Nagpore and the receipt given by the Samutdar of Rayegada, and we shall wait here without making any purchases until you bring our case to the notice of the higher authorities and get their reply. We have left our bullocks at Kottapilli in the Táluq of Purlakimedy, and only ten of us came here. The documents we have presented should be returned back to us.

(True Translation.)
(Signed) G. S. FORBES, *Collector.*

No. 568. ORDER THEREON, 28th February 1862, No. 446.

1. Resolved that the foregoing letter and its enclosure be communicated to the Commissioner of Nagpore with a request that the existing practice as to the levy of duty on Salt may be made known to this Government.

2. The Agent in Vizagapatam will report without delay what steps have been taken on the Order of the 18th October last, No. 2,008, to prevent exactions such as those now reported. It is absolutely necessary as the Government have already observed that they should be effectively repressed.

3. Mr. Forbes should have sent copy of the Purwana referred to in the Brinjaris' statement.

4. The Board of Revenue will instruct the Collector of Ganjam to make known to these Brinjaris that all exactions of the nature described by them as having been levied within the Madras Territory are illegal, and that they should refuse to pay them. They may be also told that the Commissioner of Nagpore has been addressed on the subject of their statement.

(Signed) C. G. MASTER,
Deputy Secretary to Government.

Ordered that the following letter be despatched :—

No. 569. From J. D. SIM, Esq., Secretary to the Government of Fort Saint George, to the Commissioner of Nagpore, dated 28th February 1862, No. 447.

SIR,

1. I am directed with reference to the enclosed copies of a letter* from the Collector of Ganjam and its enclosure to request that you will be good enough to make known to the Government of Madras the practice in force in Nagpore regarding the levy of duty on Salt imported from the Coast Districts of this Presidency.

* Dated 12th February 1862, No. 28.

2. His Excellency in Council desires me to point out that the levy of duty in Nagpore on Salt which has already paid the full duty at the Madras Depôts will seriously affect the trades, and will go far towards neutralizing the large expenditure now being incurred on roads into Nagpore, and especially on the Upper Godavery works. The chief direct return for the heavy outlay on these works is expected from the Salt Revenue which, if not burdened with additional duties, cannot fail largely to increase as the cost of transit is lessened. The hardship entailed on the people of Nagpore by so great an enhancement of the price of a necessary of life, as must result from the levy of the Bengal duty, will doubtless receive your serious consideration.

the Provisions referred
to in this Article
of Statement.

The Board of Mer-
chants have stated the
Collector of Salt Cus
to make known to
their Brethren that
all Exactions of the
nature described by
them as having been
levied within the
Limits of the
Madras Presidency
are illegal, and
that the said System
has been
abolished
that the Commissioner
of Navigation has been
addressed on the
subject & Copies of the State-
ment

R. Colby & Comr of Navigation Pulicat 28
14 — do do Shipowners
1 — Collr of Tanjore
1 — Agent for Negapatam

Revenue 1862 Despatch.
Pro: of Govt. for February
No. 46.

Pro: of the Madras Govt.
Dy 28 February 1862.

From Collr. of Ganjam
1 March 62 Cir. No. 664 in
Do. -- Do. 8 March -- Cir. No. 739

Passing orders on
a letter from Ganjam
Collector submitting
a Rypeat from certain
Brinjaries of Chettroghur
complaining of the tax
levied in certain places
on the Salt purchased and
conveyed by them.

Pro. No. 40-41
8-8-54
" 13-14
30-7-57
" 34-35
24-8-57
" 19-20
23-4-58
" 38-39
7-5-58
" 5-6
26-5-58

No. 567 & 568.

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Completion of which
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an injection to the
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incurred on roads into Rajpore

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Returns for the levy
on Salt manufactured
working is expected
from Cuttack Salt Rest
which if not
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additional duties
cannot fail to yield
& increase as
the cost of transit

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Madras duty is en-
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people of Rajpore
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of the Price of a
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Revenue 1862 Deptt.
Pro: of Govt. for February.
No. 447.

To the Commissioner of
Nagpore.
Dy 28th February 1862.

From Collr of Ganjam
Received 12 C. 10 Mar.

Requesting to be informed of the practice in force in Nagpore regarding the levy of duty on Salt imported from the Coast Distts. of this Presidency.

No 569.