

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Political **DEPARTMENT.**

G.O. No.	596	Press ~~M.R.~~
Dated	4 — 10 —	~~19~~ 1860

Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Political Department,
4th October 1860.*

No. 14. Read the following Extract from the Proceedings of the Right Honorable the Governor General of India in Council, in the Home Department (Separate Revenue), under date the 15th September 1860, No. 2,046.

*Separate Revenue Consultation, 19th June 1857, Nos. 3 and 5.
Ditto 10th July 1857, Nos. 9 and 10.*

Read again the papers recorded on the Consultations of the dates noted in the margin.

Read a letter from the Government of Fort St. George, No. 184, dated the 27th March 1860, recommending that, with a view to the abolition of the Pepper Monopoly in Travancore, the British Government should undertake to levy on account of the Rajah of that State at the British Port of Cochin, an export duty not exceeding 15 Rupees per candy, equal to 20 Rupees per cent. *ad valorem*, on all Pepper exported therefrom, except Pepper which may have been imported by sea from any British Territory.

The Governor General in Council sees no objection to the proposal of the Madras Government, but instead of imposing a duty not exceeding Rupees 15 a candy, he would fix it at Rupees 15 a candy, leaving it to be abated afterwards if advisable.

Cochin, His Excellency in Council observes, is an isolated spot of British Territory on the Coast, 20 miles from any other British possession, and on the land side surrounded by the Dominions of Cochin and Travancore. The levy therefore of an exceptional duty on Pepper at the Port of Cochin on account of the Rajah of Travancore, or of the two Rajahs, will not in the opinion of His Excellency in Council in any way interfere with British interests, or affect the integrity of the Customs' system in India.

The act necessary to legalize the levy of the proposed duty need only, the Governor General in Council thinks, provide for giving power to the Collector of Customs at Cochin to collect an export duty of 15 Rupees a candy on all Pepper, and for authorizing the Government of Madras, after deducting all expenses of collection, to pay over the proceeds either to the Rajah of Travancore alone, or to the Rajahs of Travancore and Cochin in such proportions as may be agreed on.

Enclosures to the Madras letter of 27th March last being sent in original.

Ordered, that a copy of the foregoing observations, and of the documents above cited, be forwarded as desired by the Madras Government to the Honorable Mr. Forbes, with the request that he will be good enough to introduce a Bill on the subject into the Legislative Council.

(Signed) W. GREY,
Secy. to the Gov. of India.

No. 2,003.

Copy forwarded to the Government of Fort Saint George, with reference to Mr. Chief Secretary Pycroft's letter to the address of the Foreign Secretary No. 184, dated 27th March last.

(Signed) W. GREY,
Secy. to the Govt. of India.

No. 15. ORDER THEREON, 4th October 1860, No. 596.

Ordered to be communicated to the Resident of Travancore and Cochin with reference to his letter dated 20th February last, No. 14.

(Signed) T. PYCROFT,
Chief Secretary.

Exd. S. T. Augustin.

