Revenue Department

Minutes of Consultations

7th September 1858

Pack No. 19. 20 & 21

Order No. 1203 dy 3rd Sept. 1858.

1203
&
1804

No. 19. Read the following letter from Messrs. BINNY and Co.; to T. PYCROFT, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, dated Madras 2d September 1858.

SIR,

1. We have the honor to submit sundry remarks having especial reference to the export of salt to Calcutta for private trade, and, if they receive the concurrence of Government, we beg that you will communicate with the Government of Bengal thereon by the most expeditious means as the favorable season for the voyage to Calcutta by sailing ships, will soon be over.

2. Some weeks ago we were informed that the Government of Bengal had enquired from the Government of Madras whether 12 lakhs of Maunds of salt could be supplied from this Presidency, and, that they had been answered affirmatively, at the same time they were informed the rate at which freight could probably be procured for the same.

3. All parties here connected with the shipping interest were more or less interested in the question, and we with others have been expecting to learn that instructions had been received by our Government to send to Calcutta the quantity of salt above specified.

4. And in anticipation that such orders would come, we entered upon the export of salt to the extent of upwards of eleven hundred tons after coming to an understanding with the Superintendent of salt, that it should be considered as shipped on public account, if instructions were received from the Bengal Government to send up salt as anticipated.

5. We now learn, however, that no such instructions have been received, nor any intimation made to the contrary.

6. But regarding it as a fact that salt to the extent of 12 lakhs of Indian Maunds will sooner or later be required by the Indian Government, and, that the knowledge thereof among the traders at Calcutta would have the effect of reducing the price of salt there and injuring private trade therein, we feel assured the Government will guard us under the circumstances against such a contingency.

7. We have the honor therefore to suggest that the Bengal Government should at once adopt such a course as would save harmless the private trader, and that that end would perhaps be most easily attained by the issue of an official notification that all salt from this Presidency will be taken over at a fixed price as in former years, and this would no doubt be quite satisfactory if it gave a freight to the vessel of say Rupees 7 the ton net, exclusive of all charges, and, loss *in transitu*.

8. Such a rate would probably induce parties to send up large quantities between this time and the end of this month, subsequently the extended voyage would require a proportionately higher rate, and we beg to recommend that the attention of the Bengal Government may be called to this question accordingly by the earliest means in your power.

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No. 20. ORDER THEREON, No. 1203; dated 3rd September 1858.

Resolved that copy of the above letter be forwarded to the Government of Bengal and their attention requested to the last two paras. of it.

(Signed) T. PYCROFT,
*Chief Secretary.*

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Ordered in consequence that the following letter be despatched.

No. 21. From T. PYCROFT, Esq., Chief Secretary to the Government of Fort St. George; to A. R. YOUNG, Esq., Secretary to the Government of Bengal; dated 3d September 1858, No. 1204.

SIR,

*From Bengal, 22d June* 1858, *No.* 1435.
*To Bengal, 29th July* 1858, *No.* 1062.

With reference to the correspondence noted in the margin, regarding the probable requirements at Bengal of 12 lacs of maunds of salt from this Presidency, I am directed to communicate a letter from Messrs. Binny and Co. of Madras, dated 2d September 1858, and to request attention to the last

two paras. of it, wherein, in order to protect the private trader, they suggest the issue of an Official Notification to the effect that all salt from this Presidency will be taken over at a fixed price, as in former years, a course which, they add, would be quite satisfactory, if it ensured a net freight to the ship of 7 Rupees per ton, exclusive of all charges and loss *in transitu*.

Madras 2nd September 185

Thomas Bycroft Esqre
Chief Secretary to Government.
Sir,

We have the honor to submit hereby remarks having especial reference to the Export of Salt to Calcutta for private trade, and, if they receive the concurrence of Government, we beg that you will communicate with the Government of Bengal thereon by the most expeditious means as the favorable season for the voyage to Calcutta by sailing ships will soon be over.

2 Some weeks ago we were informed that the Government of Bengal had enquired from the Government of Madras whether 12 Lakhs of Maunds of Salt could be supplied from this Presidency, and that they had been answered affirmatively. at the same time they were informed the rate at which freight could probably be procured for the same.

3 All parties here connected with the shipping interest were more or less interested in the question and ever since there being expecting to learn that instructions had been received by our Government to send to Calcutta the quantity of Salt above specified.

4 And in anticipation that such orders would come, we entered upon the Export of Salt to the extent of upwards of Eleven Hundred Tons after coming to an understanding with the Superintendent of Salt, that it should be considered as shipped on Public account, if instructions were received from the Bengal Government to send up Salt as anticipated.

5 We now learn, however, that no such instructions have been received nor any intimation made to the contrary.

Pay

But regarding it as a fact that salt to the extent of 12 Lakhs of Indian Maunds will sooner or later be required by the Indian Government and that the knowledge thereof among the Traders at Calcutta would have the effect of reducing the price of salt there and injuring the private Trade therein we feel ourselves the Government will award us under the circumstances against such a contingency.

We have the honor therefore to suggest that the Bengal Government should at once adopt such a course as would save harmless the Private Trader - and that that end would perhaps be most easily attained by the issue of an official notification that all salt from this Presidency will be taken over at a fixed price as in former years, and this would no doubt be quite satisfactory if it gave a Freight of say Rs 7. the Ton net exclusive of all charges, and left in Indirectio -

Such a rate would probably induce ers to send up large quantities between this time and the end of this month. Subsequently the extended voyage would require a proportionately higher rate - and we beg to commend that the attention of the Bengal Government be called to this question accordingly by the earliest means your power.

We have the honor to be
Sir.
Your mo. ob. Servants
Binny & Co.

Revenue Dept.

No 1204.

To
A. R. Young Esqre.
Secretary, Govt of Bengal,

Sir,

With reference to the correspondence noted in the margin regarding the probable requirements at Bengal of 12 lacs of maunds of salt from this Presidency, I am directed to communicate a letter from Messrs Binny & Co of Madras dated 2nd ~~August~~ Sept 1858, and to request attention to the last two paragraphs of it, wherein, in order to protect the private trader, they suggest the issue of an Official Notification to the effect that all salt purchased at this Presidency will be taken over at a fixed price, as in former years, a course which, they add, would be quite satisfactory, if it ensured a net freight to the ship of 7 Rs per ton, exclusive of all charges and loss in transition.

Fort St. Geo: 3rd Sept. 1858

From Bengal, 22d June /58, No. 1435.
To Bengal, 29th July /58, No. 1062.

Copy
Rec'd 3 Sept.
2 Sub. Dept
Ry Steam
Dispatch

Revenue 1858 Sept 3
Dept Cons. 3 Sept. No 20 &

No 1203

Copy of a Letter from Messrs Binny & Co
Dated 2nd Sept 1858
Rec'd 3rd do
Forwarded by Bengal
3/12 Oct. 58 & No 21 Pub. Cons. Dec.

No 1203. 3rd Sept 1858.

Acknowledge Receipt of the letter noted in the margin, and request that the Board may be informed whether the Government of Fort St. George will undertake to supply salt to Bengal on the terms proposed by Messrs Binny & Co.

Sent Copy to Bengal 3rd October 1858.

Rec'd Copy to Bengal Cons. 8 Oct. 58.

Read Letter from Messrs Binny & Co dated Madras 2nd Sept 1858, and Letter from Bengal dated 22nd June 1858, No 1435, and Letter from Bengal dated 29th July 1858, No 1062, and Letter to Bengal dated 3rd Sept 1858, No 1204, and Letter from Bengal dated 8th Sept 1858, No 1203

Revenue 1858 Department.
Dp to Cons 7th Septr.

No. 1204.

To the Secretary to the
Government of Bengal
Dp 3d Septr. 58.

From — Do — 12th Octr 58
C No. 1691 inb.

No. 21.

Referring to the probable requirements at Bengal of 12 Lacs of Maunds of Salt from this Presidency, forwards a letter from Messrs Binny & Co of Madras, wherein in order to protect the private Trader, they suggest that a Trade Regulation may be issued, to the effect that all Salt from this Presidency will be taken over at a fixed price, as in former years.