Revenue Department

N° 891

Dated 23 — 3 — 1859

391

No. 8. Read the following letter from CECIL BEADON, Esq., Secretary to the Government of India; to T. PYCROFT, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George; dated Fort William, the 12th March 1859, No. 466.

SIR,

I am directed by the Governor General in Council to state that a Bill was brought into the Legislative Council this day for the purpose of raising the Customs duties on several articles imported into and exported from India by sea.

2. The Schedules of import and export duties attached to the Bill are appended hereto, and I am directed to request that all Collectors of Customs under the Government of Bengal may be immediately directed to levy duties on all articles according to those Schedules from and after the receipt of these orders.

3. The Bill will probably be passed into law next week and will contain a clause indemnifying all Collectors of customs and other officers of Government for any act which they may do in the collection of the duties according to the increased scale.

4. It is not intended that the Act shall apply to the articles of Salt and Opium, the duty on which will continue as at present.

Telegraph Message from C. BEADON, Esq., Secretary to the Government of India; to the Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George; dated Calcutta, 12th March 1859.

The new tariff bill was brought in to-day and will become law next week. The following are the rates of duty. Imports—bullion and coin, precious stones and pearls, grain and pulse, horses and other living animals, ice, coal, coke, bricks, chalk and stones, marbles and wrought stones excepted, cotton, wool, books, and machinery for the improvement of the communications and for the development of the resources of the country, free;—cotton thread twist and yarn, five per cent. Tea, coffee, tobacco and all preparations thereof, spices including cassia, cinnamon, pepper, cloves, nutmegs and mace, haberdashery, millinery and hosiery, grocery, confectionery and oilman's stores, provisions hams and cheeses, perfumery and jewellery plate and plated ware twenty per cent.;—porter, ale, beer, cider and other similar fermented liquors four annas the imperial gallon; wines and liqueurs two Rupees and spirits three Rupees the imperial gallon; all articles not included in the above enumeration ten per cent. No differential duty on origin. Exports—bullion and coin, precious stones and pearls, books, maps and engravings printed in India, horses and living animals, cotton, wool, sugar and rum spirits, tobacco and all preparations thereof, and raw silk, free;—grain and pulse of all sorts four annas the bag not exceeding two Indian Maunds or if exported otherwise than in bags two annas the maund; indigo three Rupees the maund, lac dye and shell lac four per cent.; all country articles not enumerated or named above, three per cent. The bill does not touch salt or opium direct, immediate levy of customs duties at all Ports at these rates. Collectors will be indemnified by a Clause in the Act.

SCHEDULE A.

Rates of duty to be charged on the following goods imported by Sea into any Port of India not excepted from the operation of the Customs laws.

1	Bullion and coin	Free.
2	Precious stones and pearls	Free.
3	Grain and pulse	Free.
4	Horses and other living animals..	Free.
5	Ice	Free.
6	Coal, coke, bricks, chalk and stones (marbles and wrought stones excepted)	Free.
7	Cotton wool	Free.
8	Books	Free.
9	Machinery for the improvement of the communications and for the development of the resources of the country	Free.

And the Collectors of Customs subject to the orders of the local Executive Government shall decide what articles of machinery come within the above definition, and such decision shall be final in law.

10	Cotton thread twist and yarn	5 per cent.
11	Tea	20 per cent.
12	Coffee	20 per cent.
13	Tobacco and all preparations thereof.	20 per cent.
14	Spices, including cassia, cinnamon, pepper cloves, nutmegs and mace	20 per cent.
15	Haberdashery, millinery and hosiery.	20 per cent.
16	Grocery, confectionery and oilmans stores ...	20 per cent.
17	Provisions hams and cheeses..	20 per cent.
18	Perfumery..	20 per cent.
19	Jewellery plate and plated ware	20 per cent.
20	Porter, ale, beer, cider and other similar fermented liquors...	4 Annas the imperial gallon.
21	Wines and liqueurs	2 Rupees the imperial gallon.
22	Spirits	3 Rupees the imperial gallon.

And the duty on spirits shall be rateably increased as the strength exceeds London Proof, and when imported in bottles six quart bottles shall be deemed equal to the imperial gallon.

23	All articles not included in the above enumeration,	10 per cent.

SCHEDULE B.

Rates of duty to be charged upon goods exported by Sea from any Port in India not excepted from the operation of the Customs Laws.

1	Bullion and coin	Free.
2	Precious stones and pearls	Free.
3	Books, maps, and drawings printed in India. ...	Free.
4	Horses and living animals.	Free.
5	Cotton wool	Free.
6	Sugar and rum	Free.
7	Spirits...	Free.
8	Tobacco and all preparations thereof	Free.
9	Raw silk	Free.
10	Grain and pulse of all sorts	Four annas the bag not exceeding 2 Indian Maunds, or if exported otherwise than in Bags two annas the Md.
11	Indigo...	3 Rupees the maund.
12	Lac dye and shell lac	4 per cent.
13	All country articles not enumerated or named above.	3 per cent.

(Signed) CECIL BEADON,
Secretary to the Govt. of India.

No. 9. ORDER THEREON, No. 390; dated 23d March 1859.

Ordered to be communicated to the Board of Revenue who will take immediate steps to give effect to the orders of the Government of India.

2. That Government will be informed that the Telegraphic Message to the same purport as this letter, which ought to have been despatched on the 12th March, has never reached this Government.

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

Ordered in consequence that the following letter be despatched.

No. 10. From J. D. BOURDILLON, Esq., Secretary to the Government of Fort Saint George; to CECIL BEADON, Esq., Secretary to the Government of India; dated 23d March 1859, No. 391.

SIR,

I have the honor under the orders of the Right Honorable the Governor in Council to acknowledge the receipt of your letter dated 12th March 1859, No. 466. The orders contained in which will be at once acted on.

2. I am directed however to inform you that the Telegraphic Message about raising customs duties, copy of which is therewith forwarded, and which was intended to be despatched on the 12th March, has not been received by this Government.

R. Depart.

No 391.

6 Copies
Dispatch
Steamer. To

Cecil Beadon Esqre
Secy to the Govt of India

Sir

I have the honor und
the orders of the Right Ho
norable the Governor in
Council to acknowledge
the receipt of your letter
dated 12th March 1859 No
466 The orders contained
in which will be at once
acted on.

2 I am directed how
ever to inform you tha
the telegraphic messag
about raising Customs
duties, copy of which is
herewith forwarded, and
which

which was intended to

be dispatched on the

12th March, has not been

received by this Government

Rev Dept

5

No 390.

Extract from the Minutes of Consultation
Under date the 23d March 1859.

Read the following
letter from the Secretary
to the Govt of India -

(Here enter 12th March 1859
No 466)

Ordered to be
communicated to the
Board of Revenue who
will take immediate
steps to give effect to the
orders of the Government
of India -

2. That Govern
ment will be informed
that the telegraphic
message to the same
purport as this letter
which

Note - This has been
despatched
with the letter
enclosed from Govt -

Revenue 1859
Dispatch from Govt
No 390.

To the Secretary to the
Govt of Fort St George -
dated 23d March 1859.

Referring to the
order regarding the raising
of the Customs duties on
articles in the Residency will
be duly attended to and the
Telegraphic Message on the
subject has not been received -

No 10.

Heard in Consultation

24th Mem Rec 25th

which ought to have
been despatched on
the 12 March, has
never reached this
Govt.

J. H.

R.S. Copy to the Bp of Bur.
with letter & Encls
Disp. 25.

Revenue 1859 Deptt.
D.to Cons.: 14th April

No 390.

Extract Mins of Cons.
D.d 23.d March /59

Ordering to inform the Govt. of India that the Te:-legraphic Message on the subject of Raising the Customs duties on several Articles im:-ported into and exported from India by Sea, which ought to have been despatched on the 12th Instt. has never reached this Govt. The Bd to take im:-mediate Steps to give effect to the orders of the said sub:-ject.

No 8849

No 24 March 1825