M.R.O. 14—10,000—21-4-22

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 1134 — Press / Mis.

100-101

Dated 10 — 7 — 18 60.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department.
10*th July* 1860.

No. 100. Read the following letter from B. H. ELLIS, Esq., Secretary to the Government of Bombay, to T. PYCROFT, Esq., Chief Secretary to the Government of Fort St. George, dated Poona, 25th June 1860, No. 2,298 :—

1. With reference to the correspondence ending with my letter, No. 748, dated the 24th February last, I am directed by His Excellency the Governor in Council to forward herewith for submission to the Government of Madras, copy of a letter from the Commissioner of Customs, Salt and Opium, reporting on the working of the Salt Weighing Machines received from England in 1859.

No. 818, *dated* 25*th May* 1860.

2. With reference to paragraph 8 of Mr. Spooner's letter, I am directed to request that you will state whether the Government of Madras wish the Weigh-Bridge therein referred to, to be sent to Madras, or any other Port.

From RICHARD SPOONER, Esq., Commissioner of Customs, Salt, and Opium, to B. H. ELLIS, Esq., Secretary to Government, dated Camp Mahim, 25th May 1860, No. 818.

1. In Government Endorsement, No. 1,617, dated the 27th April 1859, I was directed to report on the items noted in the margin, (which were then expected from England) as soon as they had been sufficiently tried, as the Government* of Madras were desirous of ascertaining whether the said Weighing Machines would answer the wants of the Madras Presidency.

Salt Weighing Machines.

* *No.* 544, *dated* 15*th April* 1859.

2. The Machines as noted at foot were received at the close of the monsoon of 1859, viz. :—

10 Lever-Machines, with Scoop.
10 Steel-Yards, 6 with Scoop, and 4 without Scoop.
2 Weigh-Bridges.

22

1 *To the Collector of Malabar, Calicut.*
1 *To the Collector of Canara, Mangalore.*
1 *To the Collector of Madras.*

3. Three of the Lever-Weighing Machines were forwarded by me to the Madras Presidency, as noted in the margin.

4. As the Machines have now been fully tried, I beg to report on them accordingly.

Steel-Yards.

5. The Steel-Yards are much inferior to those made in India, and no further supply, therefore, will be required from England.

Weigh-Bridges.

6. Of the two Weigh-Bridges, one was set up at the Jeeao Salt Works near Surat, but, from some cause or other, it does not answer, and has several times got out of order. This may be owing to the timber framework having become warped by the action of the hot wind in Guzerat, or from some defect in placing it on its bed, for there were no skilful mechanics procurable in Guzerat to put it up.

7. The Weigh-Bridge is an expensive affair. The original cost was £25, or say Rupees 250, besides which there was freight and other charges, and again the cost of fixing it and building a shed, &c., for it has been about Rupees 300.

8. I have still one Weigh-Bridge on hand, which, perhaps, the Madras Government might wish to try as an experiment. It is, probably, a very clever machine, but requires skill in putting it up.

Lever-Weighing Machines.

9. The Lever-Weighing Machines answer very well in Guzerat, where all salt pays duty on *weight*, and not on *measure*.

10. Mr. Stewart, the Deputy Commissioner of Customs, Northern Division, in reporting on them states as follows :—

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
10*th July* 1860.

" The Lever-Weighing Machines which were last year sent out from England having now been in use at the works for upwards of four months, and having been found perfectly to answer the purpose for which they were intended, I have the honor to state, with reference to the concluding paragraph of my Report, No. 29, of the 18th January last, that fifty of these machines are required for the works in this Division.

" An artizan at Surat having undertaken to make one of these machines at a cost not exceeding the price paid in England for those which we have got, I was lead to hope that the supply required might have been made up here, but this man having failed to make good his promise, it will be necessary to have them made up in Bombay, or to order them out from England; but I should hope they might be made up in Bombay, as the charge for package and freight on those sent out must have been nearly as much as the original cost of the machines."

11. I am now endeavouring to ascertain at what rate per each such machines could be made up in Bombay.

12. In the Konkun the Lever-Machines are not required, as most of our salt is conveyed in boats, and all such salt is measured in an Indian Maund measure, and is not weighed. Salt removed by land is weighed, but still a Lever-Machine, which is set to weigh a certain specified quantity, viz., one Indian maund, is of no use. In fact, the system in Konkun may be briefly explained as follows—A certain percentage of empty bags is weighed first, and thus by striking an average we know the weight of the bags. The bags are then filled with salt and sewn up. The bags are then separately weighed, and by deducting the total weight of the bags from the gross weight we know what is the net weight of salt liable to pay duty.

RESOLUTION OF GOVERNMENT.

1 The Commissioner should endeavour to have a further supply of Lever-Machines made up in Bombay, if they can be constructed at less cost than those imported from England. Government await some further report as to the failure of the Weigh-Bridge, which they still hope will prove useful when set up by a skilful artizan under favorable circumstances.

2. The result of the trial should be reported to the Home authorities, with an intimation that if it be found that the Lever-Machines cannot be made up economically in Bombay, a requisition will be made for a further supply from England.

3. The Madras Government also to be informed of the result of the trial, and to be requested to state whether they would wish the Weigh-Bridge referred to by Mr. Spooner to be sent to Madras or any other Port.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

No. 2,297 of 1860.

Forwarded to the Commissioner of Customs, Salt and Opium.

(Signed) B. H. ELLIS, *Secy. to Govt.*

POONA,
25th June 1860.

No. 101. ORDER THEREON, 10th July 1860, No. 1,134.

Referred to the Board of Revenue for report.

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

"The Lever-Weighing Machines which were last year sent out from England having now been in use at the works for upwards of four months, and having been found perfectly to answer the purpose for which they were intended, I have the honor to state, with reference to the concluding paragraph of my Report, No. 29, of the 18th January last, that fifty of these machines are required for the works in this Division.

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REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

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

Revenue 1860 Repar.
Pro: of Govt for July
No 1350.

From the Secty. to the
Govt. of Bombay.

Dated 25th June
Received 4th July } 1860.

No: 2298.

Forwarding Copy of a
Letter from the Commission-
er of Customs, Salt &
Opium, on the working
of the Salt weighing
Machines received from
England in 1859, and
requesting to be inform-
ed whether Wheybridge
should be sent to
Madras or any other Port.

Mis. Pro 19th Sept 1860.
No: 15.

No 1134. 10th July
With an order &

No 1134.
Referred to the
Board of Revenue for Report.

Fort St. George
10th July 1860.

Sent - Immediately -

11 Copies to the Board of Rev: Desp. 10

Rec. of the Rd. 4 Jan 61.
20 Sept. 60. No. 2037.
in a Ltr to Bombay 373 Oct No.
No. 1770.

No 100 & 101.

Read the following letter No. 2298 of 1860.
from B. H. Ellis Esqr. Secretary
to the Government of Bombay

Revenue Department

To,

J. Tycroft, Esquire
Chief Secretary to the Government of
Fort St. George

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† No. 818 dated the 25th. May 1860.

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I

Bond
25th June 1860

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your Most Obed.t Servant.-

W M Elles
Secretary to Government

20-7-20
101-101

Ramaswamy

Copy duly
Sudaseuy Ro.
Com.ds
Harishankar

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No. 2297 of 1860.

Revenue Department.

Forwarded to the Commissioner of Customs, Salt, and Opium.

Poona,
25th June 1860.

/signed/ B. A. Ellis
Secretary to Government.

(True Copy
B. A. Ellis
Secretary to Govt

with 2 spare copies

No. 818 of 1860.

Revenue Department.

From

RICHARD SPOONER, Esquire,

Commissioner of Customs, Salt, and Opium,

To

B. H. ELLIS, Esquire,

Secretary to Government.

Sir,

In Government endorsement, No. 1617, dated the 27th April 1859, I was directed to report on the items noted in the margin (which were then expected from England) as soon as they had been sufficiently tried, as the Government* of Madras were desirous of ascertaining whether the said Weighing Machines would answer the wants of the Madras Presidency.

Salt Weighing Machines.

* No. 544, dated 15th April 1859.

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10 Steel Yards, 6 with Scoop, and 4 without Scoop.

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I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

RICHARD SPOONER.

CAMP MAHIM, OFFICE OF COMMISSIONER OF CUSTOMS, SALT, AND