M.R.O. 14—10,000—21-4-22.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 619 Press / ~~Mis.~~

29-30

Dated 23—4— 1869.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department, for the month of April 1860.

No. 29 Read the following letter from CECIL BEADON, Esq., Secretary to the Government of India, with the Governor General, to J. D. BOURDILLON, Esq., Secretary to the Government of Fort Saint George, dated Camp Sealkote, 8th March 1860, No. 852:—

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, No. 1,691, dated 14th December last, forwarding, with reference to former correspondence on the subject of the duties leviable by the Nizam's Government on goods conveyed on the Godavery river, copy of a report from Captain Stoddard of the result of the conference between himself and an Officer, deputed on the part of the Nizam, respecting the most convenient place for levying the 5 per cent. duty on Goods imported into, or exported from, His Highness' dominions.

2nd. From Captain Stoddard's report it appears that two places have been fixed, viz. Wadagoodiam at the junction of the Savari and lower Godavery, and a place near Sirpur just below the junction of the Warda and Weyne Gunga, at one or other of which places the duty of 5 per cent. is to be levied once for all. It has been agreed that the value of the goods shall be determined by monthly prices current, that they shall be inspected on board the boats, and that, on payment of the dues, the supercargo shall receive a pass exempting the goods from further tax.

3rd. This point, I am to state, the Governor General regards as settled. The Resident at Hyderabad has been informed accordingly.

4th. Captain Stoddard represents, that the Officer deputed by the Nizam advanced at the conference two claims,

1st. That Salt is exempt from the Treaty of 1802.

2nd. That the Nizam is entitled to levy duty on Goods passing on the river, but not imported into, or exported from, His Highness' territories.

5th. The first of these claims was brought under the consideration of Government in 1847, when the Merchants of Secundera complained of the excessive duty levied by the Nizam on Salt. But the Government did not at that time consider it advisable to press the matter on the Nizam; because although the Nizam's Government, by taking a higher duty than 5 per cent. upon Salt, an article of merchandize imported from the British territories, infringe the 5th Article of the Treaty; on the other hand the Government of India, by imposing a prohibitory duty on the import into British territory of Opium, produced in the Nizam's country, are infringing the 3rd Article. It was considered, therefore, that the Nizam's Government, if called to account for their infringement of the Treaty in the article of Salt, might very naturally retort by referring to an equal infringement on the part of the British Government in the article of Opium.

6th. Although the imposition of a high rate of duty on Opium exported from the Hyderabad territory does not, in the Governor General's opinion, necessarily amount to an infraction of the Treaty, yet so long as the duty is so high as to be in practice absolutely prohibitory, His Excellency thinks it will be advisable still to acquiesce in the levy of a higher duty on Salt imported into the Nizam's dominions than is strictly warranted by Treaty, but the demand put forward by the Nizam's Agent to levy transit duty on Salt or goods of any kind passing through, but not imported into, or exported from, the Hyderabad territory, is quite inadmissible and contrary to the terms agreed to by His Highness. The Resident at Hyderabad has been directed to point out to the Nizam's Government that this claim cannot be admitted.

7th. With reference to the last paragraph of your letter, I am to state that the proposal of the Government of Fort Saint George to obtain from the Nizam a cession of a narrow strip of land on the north bank of the Godavery is awaiting a report from the Commissioner of Nagpore, whose attention was recalled to the subject on the 3rd November last. He has again this day been directed to hasten his reply.

No. 30. ORDER THEREON, 23rd April 1860, No. 619.

Ordered that this letter be forwarded to the Chief Engineer and to the Board of Revenue for their information and guidance respectively with reference to the correspondence noted in the margin and in view to copies being sent to the local Officers concerned.

Proceedings 30th August 1859, *No.* 1,162.
,, *16th September* ,, ,, 1,253.
,, *24th October* ,, ,, 2,497.
From Board of Revenue, 24th November 1859, *No.* 4,808.

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

20th Decr/59 No. 37 & 38.
14th Septr/47 — 47 & 48.
7.5.60 ✓ 13/10/64

Copy in a Letter to England of 25th April/60 No. 38.

From the Chief Engr. 5. 6. June 1860 [illegible]

From Govt. of India 7th July/60 C. No. 1885

No. 29 & 30.

Revenue 1860 Depth.
Pro: of Govt. 30th April.

No. 630

From the Secretary to the Govt. of India with the Governor General —

Dated 8th } March 1860
Recd. 26th }

Offering observations on Capt. Stoddard's report of the result of the conference between himself and an officer deputed by the Nizam's Govt. respecting the most convenient place for levying 5 per cent duty on goods imported into or exported from the Nizam's Dominions —

No. 619. 23rd April
William Order

No. 619.

Ordered that this letter be forwarded to the Chief Engineer and to the Board of Revenue for their information and guidance respectively with reference to the correspondence noted in the Margin and [illegible] being sent to the local officers concerned.

Procdg. Augt. 59 No. 1162
" 16th Septr. " 1533
" 24th Octr. " 1697
From Bd. of Rev. 22 Nov. 59
No. 1688

Fort St. George
23rd April 1860.
11 619 Board of Revenue
10 Chief Engineer