M.R.O. 14—10,000—21-4-22

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue **DEPARTMENT.**

G.O. No. 812 Press ~~Mis.~~

123-124

Dated 19-5- 1860.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

No. 123. Read the following letter from J. D. SIM, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, to J. D. BOURDILLON, Esq. Secretary to Government, Revenue Department, dated 9th May 1860, No. 2,250 :—

I am directed by the Board of Revenue to acknowledge the receipt of the Order of Government, dated 5th April 1860, No. 541, and to submit the following remarks on the letter forwarded therewith from Mr. Hadfield, the Secretary of the Salt Chamber of Commence, at Northwich.

2. Two Annas per maund is the average cost price to Government of Salt at the places of manufacture, where also, with very few exceptions, it is usually sold by Government. When conveyed inland by Government for sale at their Depôts, the cost of carriage is superadded to the monopoly selling price. The only land Depôts are in Canara and Rajahmundry, at those of the former District, the cost of carriage was ordered to be added by Government Order, No. 601; at the only Depôt in Rajahmundry, a fair profit is charged in addition to prime cost, duty and incidental expenses. At the Madras Depôt, 2 Annas covers the cost of the Salt and is the price at which Government sell it for export, delivering it, moreover, on the Beach, about two miles from the Depôt. In all other cases the place of manufacture *is* the place of sale, so that the Chambers' suspicions of unfair dealing are erroneous. Foreign Salt may be freely sold by the Importers any where, to any one, and in any mode, after payment of the same duty a indigenous Salt pays under the monopoly. The trade is perfectly free and the Importer may do what he pleases with his Salt, after he has paid the fixed duty.

Vide paragraph 5 of Mr. Hadfield's letter.

Dated 20th April, in Con. 21st April 1860.

3. There has been no objection raised so far as the Board are aware, by the authorities or this Presidency to the importation of English Salt. As all Salt pays the same duty, it is obviously immaterial to Government whethea it is indigenous or Foreign.

Paragraph 7 of Mr. Hadfield's letter.

4. The assertions in this paragraph are unfounded and erroneous. There is no desire or endeavour to protect the Native manufacture, regardless of cost, nor are the duties administered in any peculiar mode with this view. The monopoly system of Madras is fully and elaborately explained in Mr. Plowden's Salt Report which has been printed by the Home Government, and is procurable in England.

Paragraph 10 of Mr. Hadfield's letter.

5. Every reasonable facility will of course be afforded to Importers of English Salt and if the Salt Chamber will only try the experiment, they will find that their apprehensions of opposition and unfair treatment from the Officers of Government are imaginary, though they may have to encounter objections on the part of the Natives to the use of English Salt.

Paragraph 11 of Mr. Hadfield's letter.

6. The duty on *all* Salt, whether indigenous or Foreign has been raised, since this correspondence commenced to 1 Rupee or 2 Shillings per Indian maund of 82 2-7ths lb.

Ordered in consequence that the following letter be despatched.

No. 124. From J. D. BOURDILLON, Esq., Secretary to the Government of Fort Saint George, to the Secretary to the Government of India, dated 19th May 1860, No. 812.

In reply to the communication from your Office marginally* noted, I am directed to forward copy of a letter from the Board of Revenue, which gives the information required by the Chamber of Commerce at Northwich, in their Secretary's letter of the 16th January 1860.

* *Endorsement in the Home Department, dated 14th March* 1860, *No.* 556.
Letter from the Under Secretary to the Government of India, dated 27th April 1860, *No.* 881.

Rev Dept

a No 812

To The Secretary to the
Govt of India

Sir

In reply to the communication from your Office marginally noted, I am directed to forward copy of a letter from the Board of Revenue, which gives the information required by the Chamber of Commerce at Northfield, in your Secretary's letter of the 16th Jany 1860. forwarding a letter to the Right Hon'ble the Secretary of State's Despatch to the Government of India dated 2 Febry 1860. No. 7 relative to Madras in Council.

I have &c

Fort St. Geo: 19th May 1860

Copies
Dispd 23rd May 21st

Endorsement in the Home Dept. dated 14 March 1860. No. 556.
Letter from the Under Secretary to the Govt of India. dated 27 April 1860. No 881.

Revenue 1860 Dept.
Pro: of Govt 20 May
№ 812

To the Secretary to the
Govt of India.
Dy 19 May 1860.

Forwarding copy of a letter from the Board of Revenue giving the information required by the Chamber of Commerce as regards the quantities existing in Madras for importing and exporting English salt.

№ 123 & 124