

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 1475	Press ~~Mis.~~
341 342	
Dated 24 7- 1861	

Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
24th July 1861.*

No. 341. Read the following Endorsement from the Secretary to the Government of India:—
Read the following letter from C. E. MIRUS, Esq., Chairman to the Chamber of Commerce, Cochin, to the Secretary to the Government of India in the Revenue Department, Fort William, Calcutta, dated Cochin, 8th May 1861.

SIR,

1. At a general meeting of this Chamber, it was resolved that I should address you on the subject of the severe loss the Mercantile community of this place has sustained through the sudden introduction of the new Export Tariff on the 20th December last, which raised the valuation of Cocanut oil from 15 Rupees per candy of 5 cwt., to 14 Rupees per cwt., and materially increased that on other produce as well.

2. No notice was given that so very considerable an increase of valuation was to be established, and indeed such a course was the more unexpected in Cochin, from the fact that there are very strong reasons for the maintenance of a specially low Tariff here, which was in force prior to the 20th of December before mentioned.

3. Almost all the exports hence from which the British Government draw a considerable revenue consist of the produce of the neighbouring States of Travancore and Cochin, and have to bear the duties of these States in addition to that of the British Government.

4. It is customary to make contracts for goods to be shipped on two or three months' delivery, and oil especially must be stored for some time in casks to make the latter safe for shipment.

5. As the Mercantile community had not the slightest intimation that such a great alteration in the Tariff was contemplated, the first cost of their purchases was based on calculations including the old Tariff, and the loss sustained by the different houses on all goods thus contracted for before the 20th of December (the date that the Government Gazette with the new Tariff became Law here) and cleared afterwards, amount to about Rupees 15,000, a loss very heavy indeed, considering the small number that has to bear it.

6. This Chamber has addressed the Government of Fort Saint George on this subject, praying for a return of duty on all such goods as can be clearly proved to have been purchased before the promulgation of the new Tariff and cleared at a subsequent date; but that Government has replied, that it is not competent to give the relief sought for; but that it is open to this Chamber to address the Government of India direct.

7. I beg, therefore, that you will bring this matter to the notice of His Excellency the Governor General in Council, that the claim of the Mercantile community of this place for a return of duty, may be taken into consideration.

No. 1,328.

Transferred to the Financial Department for disposal.
(By Order, &c.,)

HOME DEPARTMENT,
27th May 1861.

(Signed) A. M. MONTEATH,
Under Secy. to the Govt. of India.

No. 7,443.

FORT WILLIAM,
FINANCIAL DEPARTMENT,
The 8th June 1861.

Ordered that a copy of the above together with a copy of the document noted in the margin,* be forwarded to the Government of Madras, with a request that a report may be submitted to this Government, especially with reference to the statement of the Chamber of Commerce, that a specially low Tariff was in force at Cochin prior to the 20th December last.

(By order of His Excellency the Governor General in Council.)

(Signed) C. H. LUSHINGTON,
Secy. to the Govt. of India.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
24th July 1861.*

From Messrs. LAWSON BROTHERS & Co., to the Chief Secretary to Government,
Revenue Department, Fort William, Calcutta, dated Cochin, 8th May 1861.

SIR,

1. In December last we had the honor of addressing the Government of Madras, praying for remission of the increased export duty on Coconut oil, on all the oil we had then arranged for, and have now read their reply to our Chamber of Commerce, No. 909 of 22nd April 1861, stating that they decline to move in the matter; but adding that we are at liberty to request the attention of your Government to the subject. We therefore beg to lay the following facts before you.

2. Previously to the 20th December last, the duty levied on Coconut oil exported from this port was Rupees 1-8 *dec.* per ton; but on that day without any notice whatever being given, the duty was quintupled or raised to Rupees 8-4 *dec.* per ton. Unlike other produce, this staple cannot be purchased and shipped immediately, the necessity of seasoning casks making it imperative to keep the oil in our yards for months before shipping, and it happened that on the date when the new Tariff was published, we had Cwt. 10,904-0-13 already arranged for.

Statement of Coconut oil purchased by us previous to the 20th December 1861.

Date of entry.	Name of Ship.	Quantity of Coconut Oil.	Old duty.	Duty new Tariff.
1861.		Cwt. Qr. lb.	RS.	RS.
January 22nd	"Linda"	526 1 4	47 1-42	221 0-16
February 1st	"Pestonjee Bomanjee"	1,069 2 24	96 1-10	449 1-12
Do. 7th	"Northumberland"	3,467 3 21	312 0-45	1,456 2-14
Do. 25th	"Malta"	838 0 27		
Do. 23th	Do.	1,000 2 5		
March 2nd	Do.	1,000 1 18	434 3-8	2,033 0-55
Do. 7th	Do.	1,000 1 10		
Do. 13th	Do.	1,000 1 0		
April 18th	"Sunrise"	74 1 14	6 2-80	31 0-95
May 3rd	Victory	925 0 2	83 1-50	388 2
	Total...	10,904 0 13	980 2-35	4,579 2-92
				980 2-35
			Loss...	3,599 0-57

(Signed) LAWSON BROTHERS & Co.

3. This amount was purchased by us under the impression that the duty would be only Rupees 1-8 per ton. The sudden difference in the rate entailed upon us a loss of Rupees 3,599-0-57, and you will perceive that it is a loss that we could not guard against. We have the honor to request the refunding of the said Rupees 3,599-0-57, extra duty paid on our shipments per contra.

4. For fear lest it may be imagined that your favorable reception of our request will entail applications of a similar nature from other parts of India, we venture to observe that on other articles, the difference of duty is comparatively small; and that Cochin alone is *seriously* prejudiced, we may add that the duty on Coconut oil has been only doubled in other parts of British India whilst here, at the chief place of production, the duty has been quintupled.

5. Our claim is only upon all the oil purchased and waiting shipment before the publication of the new Tariff, and not for return of duty on any oil we have purchased since that date.

(A true Copy.)

(Signed) C. HUGH LUSHINGTON,
Secretary to the Government of India.

No. 342.

ORDER THEREON, 24th July 1861, No. 1,475.

Referred to the Board of Revenue for report.

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

*claim, of the mercantile Community of this
place for a return of duty, may be taken into
consideration.*

*I have seen
Mr. C. E. Miles
Chairman*

No. 1528.

*Transferred to the Financial Department for
disposal.*

*By order of
Some Depart? } Mr. A. M. Montreath
The 27th May 1861. } Under Secy to the Govt of India*

*No. 7443
Fort William
Financial Department
The 8th June 1861.*

*Ordered that, a copy of the above, together
with a copy of the document noted in the mar-
gin, be forwarded to the Government of Madras,
Letter from Messrs. Lawson Brothers
of 27th May last: with a request that a report may be submitted
to this Government, especially with reference to the
Statement of the Chamber of Commerce that a
specially low Tariff was in force at Cochin prior
to the 20th December last.*

By order of His Excellency the Gov. Genl. in Council

*Mr. A. M. Montreath
Secy to the Govt of India*

Dec 1861
Drove Post for duty
to 1625

Some
the way to the foot
of the tree,

Adelphi St. June 1864
 No 74403

Edward
 From 33^d of Nov. 8/10 to Aug. 7th.
 181987 in No.

According to submit
a warrant with reference
to the statement of the
sums of money
that a sheriff has
paid was ordered at
Boston Nov. 11th 22
and sent

1845. 24 July
Waltham, Mass

26 1475.
Referred to the 13th of

Reverend Sir, I beg to

24th July 1887
 24th July 1887

111 Coffee
 Court of St. Andrew
 Aug 11 1825