M.R.O. 14-5,450—22-10-25.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 1225 Press / Mis.

Dated 23-5- 1866.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department, 23rd May 1866.

No. 413. Read the following Proceedings of the Madras Government in the Military Department :—

Communicating, with remarks, to the Departments concerned, correspondence on the subject of importation of Rifles into this Presidency. } (Here enter 16th May 1866, No. 1,691.)

No. 414. ORDER THEREON, 23rd May 1866, No. 1,225.

Miscellaneous.

Communicated to the Board of Revenue.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) J. GROSE,

Under Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue, with Proceedings Military Department, No. 1,691.

Exd. S. T. Augustin,

MILITARY DEPARTMENT.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Read the following papers:—

From the Secretary to the Govt. of India. ...	Here enter	21st October 1865, No. 308.
Pro. of Govt., Judicial Department...	,,	21st February 1866, No. 255.
Pro. of Govt., Judicial Department...	,,	6th March ,, ,, 340.
Pro. of Govt., Revenue Department...	,,	4th April ,, ,, 773.

From the Secretary to the Government of India, Military Department, Simla, 21st October 1865, No. 308; to the Secretary to Government, Military Department, Fort Saint George.

I am directed to forward the accompanying communication received from the Government of Bombay, and to request that you will move His Excellency the Governor in Council, to cause the Government of India, in the Military Department, to be informed whether there is any reason to believe that any similar importation of Enfield Rifles takes place in the Madras Presidency.

Referred to the Revenue Department.

3rd November 1865.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Judicial Department.

Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 25th January 1866.

Read letter from the Collector of Sea Customs, Madras, 22nd January 1866, No. 78; to the Secretary to the Board of Revenue, Chepauk.

Adverting to the Board's Miscellaneous Circular,* No. CLXII, dated 28th November last, (Board No. 7589), I have the honor to report that Mr. W. F. Shaw, Agent to Messrs. Franck and Co., has put in an application to pass 100 common Rifles,† imported per ship *Clive* from London.

*And my letter to the Board, No. 1028, dated 12th December 1865.

†*Invoiced at 7s. 6d., and valued at 4 and 3 Rupees each.*

2. As this is the first importation of such a large quantity of Rifles, I think it advisable, with refcrence to the Circular before quoted, to report the case for the Board's orders.

Submitted for the Orders of Government.

(A true copy and extract.)

(Signed) W. HUDLESTON,

Secretary.

To the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.

Transferred to the Judicial Department.

(Signed) J. D. SIM,

13th February 1866. *Secretary to Government.*

ORDER THEREON, 21st February 1866, No. 255.

Before passing orders on this case, the Government resolve to call on the Commissioner of Police to explain his practice in regard to the issue of licences for the importation of arms; to state what precautions are adopted to prevent the admission of arms in undue quantities, or by improper persons, and to watch their subsequent distribution by sale; and to submit a copy of the form of licence adopted,

with a memorandum of the parties to whom, and the quantities of arms, &c., for which licences have been issued from his office, since the passing of Act XXXI of 1860.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) A. J. ARBUTHNOT,
Chief Secretary.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Judicial Department.

Read again Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 25th January, and recorded in the Proceedings of the 21st February 1866, No. 255.

Read also the following letter from the Commissioner of Police, dated Madras, 2nd March 1866, No. 28; to the Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George.

With reference to Order of Government, No. 255 of the 21st instant, I have the honor of state that the 100 common Rifles, alluded to by the Collector of Sea Customs, were consigned to Messrs. Franck & Co., by a London House, for auction sale, on behalf of the consigners. Messrs. Franck & Co. state that they have no interest in the matter, beyond the usual commission on sale, and that it is a matter of indifference to them whether the Rifles are cleared or not. It appears that a small consignment of 16 cheap Rifles, sent out in April 1865, were sold at considerable profit.* Hence probably the present invoice; but Messrs. Franck & Co. have already written to the consigners requesting that arms may form no part of any future miscellaneous consignment.

**They were chiefly purchased for Bangalore dealers.*

2. A permit to clear and store these arms was granted by this Department on the 15th January. In the case of auctioneers, arms cannot be sold without a further special permit, and a sale list must be furnished after the auction (*vide* the clause inserted in auctioneers' licences). The granting of licences, under Act XXXI of 1860, is supervised by the Commissioner of Police personally; but on the 15th January, the Acting Commissioner was attending a special Sessions of the High Court, and the permit was signed by the Deputy Commissioner Ramachendra Row, as a matter of routine. The unusual quantity should have been brought to his notice. In future, no such permits will be passed through the office in the Commissioner's absence.

3. I enclose a copy of the licence taken out by dealers, and also of the permit to clear and forward arms. No licence to manufacture arms has ever been granted. Arms cannot of course be cleared from the Custom House without a permit. The inspection of books, authorized in G. O., dated 18th September 1860, No. 1198, paragraph 6, forms a check on the subsequent sale, and also on any attempt to forward arms to the Mofussil without a permit. Arms are not permitted to be so forwarded, until the license granted to the mofussil consignee has been produced in this office, for endorsement and registry. Thus arms cannot be forwarded to any save a licenced mofussil dealer.

4. I enclose the Return of Arms, &c., for which licences have been issued from this office since the passing of Act XXXI of 1860. It will be observed that the number of fire-arms imported has more than doubled during the past year, and for this, I am unable to assign any specific cause. A large proportion has been imported by European Firms, and doubtless for strictly lawful purposes; on the

other hand, there is a considerable decrease in the quantities of ammunition, sulphur and saltpetre imported, save under the one head of cartridges, where an increase is visible.

ORDER THEREON, 6th March 1866, No. 340.

The Governor in Council directs that the licence granted for the importation of the 100 Rifles, referred to in the foregoing letter, be cancelled, and that it be intimated to the importers that they should re-ship them to England. It would appear, from the description given of the Rifles in question, that they are not adapted for sporting purposes, or indeed for use by Europeans, and under these circumstances, it is not desirable that the importation of so large a number of offensive weapons should be permitted.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) A. J. ARBUTHNOT,
Chief Secretary.

Proceedings of the Madrras Government, Revenne Department.

Read the following letter from the Secretary to the Board of Revenue, Madras, 15th March 1866, No. 1817; to the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.

With reference to the Order of Government, dated 16th November 1865, 2,799, I am directed by the Board of Revenue to forward, for the information of Government, the replies of Collectors of Coast Districts to the Board's Circular, dated 28th November 1865, No. CLXII, (Board No. 7,589,) from which it will be seen, that at the date of report, no Enfield Rifles had been imported into this Presidency, either direct from Europe, or America, or from any Eastern Port.

MISCELLANEOUS CIRCULAR, No. CLXII.

Board No. 7,589.

Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 28th November 1865.

Read the following Proceedings of the Madras Government, dated 16th November 1865, No. 2,799, Revenue Department:—

Read the following letter from the Secretary to the Government of India, Simla, 21st October 1865, No. 308; to the Secretary to Government, Military Department, Fort Saint George.

I am directed to forward the accompanying communication, received from the Government of Bombay, and to request that you will move His Excellency the Governor in Council, to cause the Government of India, in the Military Department, to be informed whether there is any reason to believe that any similar importation of Enfield Rifles takes place in the Madras Presidency.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

From Colonel W. F. MARRIOTT, Secretary to Government, dated Bombay Castle, 9th October 1865, No. 3,132; to the Secretary to Government of India, Military Department, Simla.

I am directed to transmit the accompanying copy of a letter from the Adjutant General, No. 1,615, dated 26th September, with enclosures, relative to a trade in Enfield pattern long range Rifles, said to be carried on in the Sudder Bazaar at Rajcote and in the Province generally, and of a copy of Government Resolution thereon of this date.

Arms, sale of.

Military Department.
No. 3,132.

Bombay Castle,
9th October 1865.

Letter from the Adjutant General, dated 26th September 1865, No. 1,615.

SIR,—I have the honor by desire of the Commander of the Forces to transmit, for the information of His Excellency the Governor in Council, the accompanying letter from the Brigadier General Commanding Northern Division of the Army,

No. 1,210, of 8th September 1865.

with extract from a letter from Captain Heathcote, Staff Corps, Staff Officer, Rajcote.—I have, &c.—T. Stock, Lieut-Colonel, Adjutant General of the Army.

Letter from the Brigadier General Commanding N. D. A., No. 1,210, dated Ahmedabad, 18th September 1865.

Sir,—I beg to submit, in original, a representation made by Captain Heathcote for such consideration and disposal as the Commander of the Forces may deem it to deserve.

2. I may here observe that it has come to my knowledge that a few weapons, similar to those now alluded to, have been offered for sale (by natives) in the Sudder Bazaar of this Cantonment.—I have &c.—C. W. D. Staveley, Brigadier General, Commanding N. D. A.

Extract of letter from Captain Heathcote, Staff Corps, dated 14th September 1865; to the Officer Commanding Rajcote.

"I have the honor to call your attention to the fact, that while our Native Troops are still armed with the smooth bore musket only, a large trade in Enfield pattern long range Rifles has of late years sprung up in the Sudder Bazaar, and I believe in the province generally.

"2. During the month that I was in charge of the Sudder Bazaar, two consignments arrived. I have stripped and carefully examined one of the arms, of which the following is a description :—

"3. It is a rather rough trade made long Enfield, with brass mountings, the lock plate marked with a Crown and Tower 1863. This, however, is a forgery, as not a single one of the component parts of the Rifle has the Government viewer's mark on it. The lock is strong and serviceable, the stock has the usual trade marks on it, with the name of the maker, "T. Jones," in the ramrod groove, the barrel under the breech is marked "Siviter J. W. Crown R. and C. 2," very fairly bored. The rifling being uniform instead of progressive, as in the Government weapon. The different parts are well and strongly set up, and it is altogether a very serviceable arm. The price asked is Rupees 40.

"4. A large number of this description of arms have, I believe, been lately imported into Bombay, and I observed in the *Times of India* for June last, that Messrs. Cohen and Co. were advertising the expected arrival of 1,000 long Enfields, those Rifles, however, which reach this District are obtained principally through the small Memon merchants of Bombay."—True Extract—C. Aitchison, Lieut.-Colonel, Assistant Adjutant General of the Army.

Resolution.—Captain Heathcote should be thanked for his information, and requested to ascertain if he can from the Commissioner of Customs Bombay, or from other sources, whence these arms come, and also what is their usual ultimate destination.

A reference should be made to the Judicial Department, to ascertain what is the present state of the law relative to import and sale of arms.

Copies should be sent to the Government of India, and Secretary of State, and to Resident Baroda, Political Agent Kattywar, Agent Governor General in Rajpootana, and Police Commissioner, N. D.

(Signed) W. F. MARRIOTT, Colonel,
Secretary to Government.

Referred to the Revenue Department.

Fort Saint George,
3rd November 1865.

(Signed) H. MARSHALL, Colonel,
Secretary to Government.

Order thereon, 16th November 1865, No. 2,799.

1. Forwarded to the Board of Revenue for inquiry and early report.

2. Attention should be directed both to direct importation from Europe or America, and to indirect importation from any Eastern Port.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) W. HUDLESTON,
Acting Secretary to Government.

Forwarded to the Collector of Sea Customs, and to the Collectors of all Maritime Districts for inquiry and report.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) R. A. DALYELL,
Acting Secretary.

To all Maritime Collectors, including Sea Customs, Madras.

From J. H. Blair, Esq., Collector of Sea Customs, Madras, 12th December 1865, No. 1,028; to the Secretary to the Board of Revenue.

1. In reply to Board's Miscellaneous Circular, No. CLXII, (Board No. 7,589) of the 28th ultimo, I have the honor to state that there is no importation here of Enfield Rifles for the market similar to that in Bombay.

2. I subjoin a memorandum of the Rifles imported during the year 1864-65 .—

From London.		From Calcutta.	
No.	V. Rs.	No.	V. Rs.
62	11,639	1	200

3. The above have either been brought out by gentlemen passengers, or imported by Agent for Military Officers and private individuals.

From C. W. Reade, Esq., Collector of South Arcot, Cuddalore, 12th December 1865, No. 279; to the Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue.

In reference to the Board's Miscellaneous Circular, No. CLXII, dated 28th November, I have the honor to state that there has been no importation in this District of weapons of the kind adverted to in the letter of the Military Secretary to Government, Bombay, or of any other kind, prior to or since 1859.

From J. Fraser, Esq., Collector of the Godavery District, Cocanada. 15th December 1865, No. 332; to the Secretary to the Board of Revenue.

Adverting to the Board's Miscellaneous Circular, No. CLXII, dated 28th ultimo, regarding the importation of Enfield Rifles, I have the honor to report that none have hitherto been imported into this District.

From V. H. Levinge, Esq., Collector of Madura, Kodikanel, Pulny Taluk, 18th December 1865, No. 324; to the Secretary to the Board of Revenue.

Referring to the Proceedings of the Board, dated 28th November 1865, No. 7,589, (Miscellaneous Circular, No. CLXII,) I have the honor to report that no Enfield Rifles are imported into this District. The only fire-arm imported by sea during the year is a double-barrelled gun, valued at Rupees 130, from Ceylon.

From G. A. Ballard, Esq., Collector of Malabar, Palghaut, 19th December 1865, No. 271; to the Secretary to the Board of Revenue.

Dated 28th November 1865, No. CLXII, (Board No. 7,589.)

Adverting to the Board's Miscellaneous Circular noted, I have the honor to report that no Enfield Rifles, of the description therein alluded to, have been imported in any of the ports of this District.

From D. F. Carmichael, Esq., Collector of Vizagapatam, 21st December 1865, No. 1,042; to the Secretary to the Board of Revenue.

In reply to the Miscellaneous Circular, No. CLXII of the 28th ultimo, I have the honor to inform you that no Enfield Rifles have been imported into this District.

From G. L. Morris, Esq., Collector of Tanjore, Vellum, Tanjore Taluk, 26th December 1865, No. 430; to the Secretary to the Board of Revenue.

With reference to the Board's Miscellaneous Circular, No. CLXII, (Board No. 7,589,) dated 28th November 1865, I have the honor to state that Mr. Plumer, the Acting Sub-Collector, who is now in charge of the Sea Customs Department, reports that no Enfield Rifles, of the pattern therein referred to, have been imported at any of the ports of this District during the last eight years.

From G. Thornhill, Esq., Acting Collector of Ganjam, Russelcondah, 9th January 1866, No. 27; to the Secretary to the Board of Revenue.

1. In reply to the Board's Miscellaneous Circular, No. CLXII of the 28th November last, I have the honor to report that after inquiry, I find that no fire-arms of any description have been imported into this District at any of the important or minor ports.

2. A few old rusty fire-arms, saved from wrecks at Ganjam and Munsurcottah, are now in the custody of the Port Superintendent.

From A. Wedderburn, Esq., Collector of Tinnevelly, 9th January 1866, No. 12; to the Secretary to the Board of Revenue.

With reference to the Board's Miscellaneous Circular, No. CLXII, Board No. 7,589, dated 28th November 1865, I have the honor to report that no Enfield Rifles have been imported into this District.

From J. W. B. DYKES, Esq., Collector of Nellore, Prabhagiripatnam, in Atmakuru Taluk, 15th January 1866, No. 8; to the Secretary to the Board of Revenue.

With reference to the Board's Miscellaneous Circular, No. CLXII, dated 28th November 1865, calling for report, after inquiry, whether any Enfield Rifles are imported into the Madras Presidency, I have the honor to state that it appears from the report* of the Acting Deputy Collector in charge of the Sea Customs Department in this District, that no importation of Rifles, of the kind referred to, has been made into this District by sea.

*No. 382, *dated* 19*th December* 1865.

From T. A N. CHASE, Esq., Acting Collector of the Kistna District, Bezawadah, 25th January 1866, No. 32; to the Secretary to the Board of Revenue.

With reference to the Board's Miscellaneous Circular, No. CLXII, (Board No. 7,589) dated 28th November 1865, I have the honor to state that on inquiry regarding the importation of Enfield Rifles direct, or indirect, from Europe or America, or from any Eastern Port, the Superintendent of Sea Customs at Masulipatam has reported that as the Registers showing the importations during the past two or three years were destroyed in the cyclone of 1st November 1864, the information called for could not be afforded, and that no Rifles have been imported since the cyclone.

From W. M. CADELL, Esq., Collector of South Canara, Mangalore, 29th January 1866, No. 24; to the Secretary to the Board of Revenue.

1. With reference to the Board's Miscellaneous Circular, No. and date as per margin, I have the honor to state that the Sea Customs Accounts, as hitherto kept in this District, do not show the description of fire-arms imported, nor does it appear from the reports received that any large number of these fire-arms are here imported for sale.

No. CLXII., dated 28th December 1865, *Board No.* 7,589.

2. From inquiries which I have instituted, I find also that very few Rifle fire-arms are made use of by the people of this District, and there is no reason at present to suppose that any such trade as that described by Captain Heathcote is prevailing in this District.

3. Orders will, however, be issued to all Sea Customs Officers to keep in future a careful Register of the different kinds of arms which may be landed at the different ports.

ORDER THEREON, 4th April 1866, No. 773.

Transferred to the Military Department, with reference to the Docket of 3rd November 1865, on the letter from the Government of India, dated 21st October 1865, No. 308.

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

ORDER, No. 1691, 16th May 1866.

Ordered that the foregoing letter from the Government of India be communicated to the Judicial Department, in view to the attention of the Police Authorities being drawn to the necessity of preventing any possible traffic in fire-arms.

2. The papers will also be communicated to His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief, with a similar object as regards Military stations.

To the Offg. Secy. to the Govt. of India, M. D. | Here enter 16th May 1866, No. 1692.

(True Extract.)

A Marshall *Major General,*
Secretary to Government.

To the Judicial Department.
" Adjutant General.
" Revenue Department. Lrk W Spare Copies

Exd. A. W. Cooke.

Pro: 6th Nov 65 No 2986
" 4th April 66 No 576

Revenue 1866 Dept.

V. 1431.

Proceedings of the Madras Govt in the Military Dept.

Dated 16th May
Recd 19th 1866.
V. 1691.

Communicating with remarks, to the Depts concerned correspondence on the subject of importation of Rifles into the Presidency.

No 1225. 23d May

Wickaver.

V. 1225.

Communicated to the Board of Revenue.

23d May 66.

To Pro 5th Nov 65 No 2986 & 4th April 66 No 576

No 413 & 414