M.R.O. 14—5,450—22-10-25.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue **DEPARTMENT.**

G.O. No. 730 Press Mis.

463 - 464

Dated 27-3-1867.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department, 27th March 1867.

No. 463. Read the following letter from Messrs. ARBUTHNOT & Co., to the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department, Fort Saint George, dated Madras, 22nd March 1867 :—

1. We annex a letter from ourselves to the Collector of Sea Customs, and his reply, and with reference thereto, we have the honor to request that you will obtain from His Excellency the Governor in Council and communicate to us some distinct expression of opinion, or order, with a view to the prevention of any future possible disagreeable correspondence on the subject referred to in these letters. We wish to know if the Government empowers the Collector to open any case he pleases, in order to assess the duty, or is he bound to respect the valuation given to him, as in the present instance, accompanied by an Invoice, and remarks as to the depreciation.

2. We make this appeal in preference to bringing the matter before the Chamber of Commerce, in the expectation that Government will see the propriety of disallowing a power so vexatious to the mercantile community, and so injurious to trade as that which the Collector claims under existing regulations.

From Messrs. ARBUTHNOT & Co., to the Collector of Sea Customs, dated Madras, 22nd March 1867.

We have the honor to inform you that yesterday we submitted Import passes for the following goods :—

$\frac{\text{T P C \& C}}{\text{F F}}$ 3693/3694—2 Cases Red Goods ex "Clyde."
,, 3595/3596—2 do. do. ex "Malabar."

and exhibited to the Appraiser the *bona fide* Invoices for the same, which we enclose ; but we are informed that the goods cannot be passed unless we produce a sample, or open the boxes for inspection : as we cannot do the former, and as the latter would destroy the sale of the goods, dealers always looking with great suspicion on opened boxes of piece goods, we request that you will either at once take over the goods on behalf of Government at the valuation we have rendered, or that you will permit them to be passed, as owing to the great depression in the market for piece goods, we feel quite sure that we have rendered such a valuation as they will hardly, if at all, realize.

From the Collector of Sea Customs, to Messrs. ARBUTHNOT & Co., dated Madras, 22nd March 1867, No. 290.

1. Before settling the matter referred to in your letter of to-day regarding four Cases Red Goods per "Clyde" and "Malabar," I have the honor to request you will inform me whether you have samples or not, as your letter is not clear on the point.

2. I consider, moreover, I have the power to open and examine your cases, and after examination either to take over your goods or pass them, if I think proper to do so, which your letter appears to imply I have no right to do, and requests me to take the goods or pass them without examination.

No. 464. ORDER THEREON, 27th March 1867, No. 730.

Separate Revenue, No. 30.
Customs.

If Messrs. Arbuthnot & Co. consider themselves aggrieved by any act of the Collector of Sea Customs, it is open to them to address the Board of Revenue. The Government must decline to interfere in the manner solicited.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) W. HUDLESTON,
Secretary to Government.

To Messrs. Arbuthnot & Co.
,, the Board of Revenue.
,, the Collector of Sea Customs.

Exd. S. T. Augustin.

Rec.d 21st March/67 Ins. 3756

Revenue 1867. Warrant
Bd of Govt. for March
No. 773.

Simon Inness
Arbuthnot & Co.

Dated 22nd March
Received 23rd 1867.

No 738. 27th March

Forwarding correspondence relating to the powers vested in the Coll.rs of Sea Customs for assessing duty and requesting that orders may be issued distinctly allowing a power to negative to the Mercantile Community and so injurious to trade as that which the Coll.rs claim under existing regulations.

Nos 463-464.

L

Bahnhofsmarck
26. März 69

W 730.

Jf Hrn Dr. Abendroth & Co.
ersuche Hochdieselben ergebenst
Ihnen, acto Jf Hr. Jf
den Betrag à 18 Sgr. pr. Exemplar
Ihrer Adresse à Hr. Jf. Hr. Dr. Hirsch
Berliner Buchhandlung in
Hr. gefälligst beizitiren -

5 Ex.

1 Jn. Mesers Gebrüder Reg Depeschen 27 März 69.
14 Cycl. pr. 18 Sgr. off Rd. N
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