Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
23rd October 1873.

No. 210. Read the following letter from T. H. THORNTON, Esq., Secretary to the Government of Punjab, Financial, to the Hon. R. A. DALYELL, Acting Secretary to the Government of Madras, Revenue Department, dated Lahore, 11th October 1873, No. 1,320 :—

WITH reference to your letter, No. 652, of the 24th June last, I am desired to forward, for the information of the Right Honourable the Governor in Council, copy of letter, No. 1,051, dated the 29th September 1873, from the Secretary to the Financial Commissioner in this Province, and of its enclosure, on the subject of the manufacture of country-made beer in the Punjab.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

From J. A. E. MILLER, Esq., Secretary, Financial Commissioner, to T. H. THORNTON, Esq., Secretary to the Government of Punjab, dated Punjab, 26th September 1873, No. 1,051.

WITH reference to the inquiry made by the Government of Madras, communicated with your No. 939, dated 17th July, as to whether the manufacture of country-made beer is permitted in the Punjab, and, if so, with what restrictions as to brewing and vend, and with what results, the Financial Commissioner is not sure whether the term "country-made beer" is here intended to mean beer made in breweries under European management and according to the European system, or such native beverages as Lugri, Chang, and Sur, which are made in the Kangra District from barley and rice, and were reported on in this office letter, No. 796, dated 16th August 1872.

2. The manufacture of these drinks is on a very small scale, and is confined to the guddees and other hill-races inhabiting parts of the Kangra District.

It has not been thought advisable to exercise any interference with them beyond giving an annual lease of the right to manufacture and sell them, without, however, the right to interfere with parties who manufacture them for their home-consumption.

3. There is a European brewery at Murree and another at Simla. Licenses are granted in accordance with the terms of the Excise Act X. of 1871, Section 9. The form of license hitherto used is Appendix VII. of Book Circular XIV. of 1868; but, as in both the breweries distillation of spirits has been allowed under special conditions, the form of the license has been slightly modified in the revised excise rules recently submitted to Government.

4. For convenience of references the revised form is annexed hereto. The conditions on which brewing of beer is allowed are stated in the license. No further rules on the subject have been found necessary. The brewery is required to take out a wholesale license for wholesale vend at the premises, and also a retail license if retail vend is desired, in the same form and at the same rules as other vendors of spirituous and fermented liquors manufactured according to the English method, or imported into India. In practice, the breweries keep agencies for retail sale, and independent vendors supply themselves from the brewery or from the agencies, and retail the beer to the public. The price of this beer is considerably below that of bottled beer imported from Europe, and usually not above the cost of beer imported in cask and bottled in the country, so that, as long as the quality is good, the Murree and Simla beer competes successfully with imported beer in the Punjab. Of late the Murree Brewery Company appears to have been extending its business largely and, from testimonials of military officers published in the newspapers, the beer appears to find great favour with the British troops.

5. The results of the establishment of these two breweries may be said to have been very successful.

6. The beer is not consumed by natives, so that it does not in any way interfere with the Abkari arrangements of the Province, and no special restrictions regarding the manufacture and vend have been found necessary. The general provisions of the Excise Act and the terms of the licenses give all the control that is needful.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
23rd October 1873.

LICENSE to work a brewery is hereby granted to at in the district of on the following conditions, infraction of any of which will involve forfeiture of license.

(*1st.*) Only malt liquor of any description shall be manufactured within such brewery or the premises thereof.

(*2nd.*) No attempt shall be made to extract spirits from the grains or refuse of the brewery.

(*3rd.*) No wholesale vend of malt liquor shall be made at the brewery without a wholesale license under Section 13, or retail vend without a retail license under Section 14, Act X. of 1871.

(*4th.*) No malt liquor shall be sold or given from the brewery to European soldiers or non-commissioned officers, whether with their regiments or on staff or civil employ, without written permission of the officer commanding or other official superior.

(*5th.*) The brewery shall be open at all times to the inspection of the Deputy-Commissioner, Assistant Commissioner, or Extra Assistant Commissioner of the district, or of any subordinate whom the Deputy-Commissioner may authorize for the purpose.

District
Dated

Deputy-Commissioner.

NOTE.—Where a distillery license is also held, Conditions 1 and 2 must be omitted or modified, so as to consist with such license.

No. 211. ORDER THEREON, 23rd October 1873, No. 1,154.

Separate Revenue, No. 9.
Abkari.

COMMUNICATED to the Board of Revenue, with reference to their letter, dated 14th May 1873, Miscellaneous No. 2,915.

(True Extract.)

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

To the Board of Revenue.

Exd. F. R. Bantleman.

No 1320

From

Lt. Thornton Esquire,
Secretary to Government
Punjab

To

The Secretary to Government of
Madras
Revenue Department
at Lahore the 11th October 1873.

Financial Sir,

With reference to your letter No 652, of the 24th June last, I am desired to forward for the information of the Right Honble the Governor in Council, copy of letter No 1051 dated the 29th Sept. 73 from the Secretary to the Financial Commissioner in this Province, and of its enclosure, on the subject of the manufacture of Country made Beer in the Punjab.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,

For Secretary to Govt. Punjab

Rec'd 1873 Dept
No. 3325.

From
The Govt of the Punjab
1320

Dated 11 Octr 1873
Recd 20 --- 1873
Encl.

Forwarding copy of a letter and its enclosure from the Secy to the Govt of the Punjab regarding the manufacture of country-made beer in the Province

Watts Adee
No 1154 - 23 Oct 1873.

14 to the Govt. of India Dept. dated 4 Nov 73.

No. 1154
Copy of the Resolution noted in reference to Mem. letter dated 7th May 1873
No. 2915

23 Oct. 73