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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

Revenue DEPARTMENT

G.O. No. *1245* Press
B.P. No. *1245* Mis.

Dated *17-8-1875* 196 .

8

Not to be folded or roughly handled

No. 177. Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 22nd July 1875, No. 2,048:—
Read the following letter from W. McQUHAE, Esq., Collector of Madura, to
H. E. STOKES, Esq., Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated
8th July 1875, No. 283:—

WITH reference to G. O., dated 29th April 1875, No. 664, Revenue Depart-
ment, I have the honor to report that
Board's Procs., dated 4th May 1875, Miscella-
neous No. 3,786. a serious fraud has been perpetrated on
the Indian revenues by the exportation of the opium seized in Ceylon. From the
enclosed letter (copy) from the Deputy Collector, dated 25th June, No. 117, it
appears that the *Mohideen Kadir Bux* cleared from Paumben on the 8th March
last with a cargo of forty maunds of rice, and that the opium was, in all probability,
concealed in the rice-bags. Mr. Burby is not a sharp man, and seems to have
passed the bags without examination. The duty would have been Rs. 3,645-13-4.
The information obtained is not very complete, owing to the absence of all the
crew of the boat.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

From A. RAMANJULU NAICK, Acting Deputy Collector of Sea-Custom Department, Madura,
to W. McQUHAE, Esq., Collector of Madura, dated Rameswaram, 25th June 1875,
No. 117.

WITH reference to your foot-note to G. O., No. 664, dated 29th April 1875, communicated
by the Board's Miscellaneous No. 3,786, dated 4th May last, I have the honor to report that,
neither the Boat *Mohideen Kadir Bux*, concerned in the smuggling, nor any of her crew have
returned, and that my inquiry made in their absence does not show precisely how the opium was
smuggled.

2. The owner of the Boat (sixteen tons) is one Asanisai Ibrahi of Paumben, and he ignores
every thing, and says he has given the entire management of the vessel to the Tindal, and receives
only a percentage of the amount realized as freights.

3. The Boat cleared off Paumben on the 8th March last with a cargo of forty maunds of
rice. From the records of the Paumben Sea-Custom Office, the consignee of the cargo appears
to be one Oomersa, the Tindal of the Boat; but there is no information as to who reported himself
as the consignee of the opium before the Ceylon authorities, the name of the man who was
convicted and punished by the Police Magistrate not being given in the judgment of the
Magistrate. The statement that he was a pilot of Paumben is evidently false, as it seems clear
that none of the thirteen pilots employed at Paumben went to Ceylon since the commencement of
the year. On inquiry from private sources, I understand that the smuggler is one Chinna Vappa of
Paumben and a relation of the Boat-owner, and that he has been carrying on illicit traffic in
opium for some time past.

4. From the records in the Master Attendant's office, it appears that the Boat in question
sailed (owing to the wind and current being contrary) round Rameswaram *via* Mannar, and
not through the Channel, which is the direct course to Nigombo, the port to which the vessel
was bound. Still I doubt very much, that the opium was shipped at Rameswaram, a sub-port of
Paumben, as stated by the man who appeared as the consignee of opium in Ceylon. The inquiry
made at Rameswaram does not show that any opium was shipped there. Mr. Burby, the Sea-
Custom Superintendent at Paumben, says it was evident the bags presented before him contained
only rice, and that in consequence, he did not examine them. From this, and from the fact that
the rice and the opium smuggled together does not exceed two tons, it is probable that the opium
was concealed in the rice-bags.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
17th August 1875.*

5. The opium now smuggled (1,000 lbs.) if covered with a pass will be liable to a duty of Rs. 3,645-13-4, at the prescribed* rate of 600 Rupees per a chest of two Indian Maunds. vide G. O., No. 1,230, of the 15th July 1871, embodied in the Board's Procs., No. 3,328, of the 8th August 1871.

Besides, as the drug was exported contrary to the Governor-General's Notification, dated 9th June 1870, it is liable to confiscation and a penalty under Section 24 of Act VI. of 1863.

6. Ramasamy Mudeliar made his best endeavours to detect the smuggling of opium, and even employed a special agency for the purpose, but there has been no detection, as the advantages open to smugglers are so great and the manner in which the illicit trade is carried on, little admits of detection. There is no doubt that considerable quantities of opium are smuggled.

7. On the arrival of the Boat and its crew, I shall make further careful inquiry, and submit a fuller report; but, for the present, it is quite clear that a serious fraud has been perpetrated on the revenues of the Government of India.

(True Copy.)

(Signed) W. McQUHAE,
Collector.

SUBMITTED for the information of Government with reference to G. O., dated 29th April 1875, No. 664.

(A true Copy and Extract.)

(Signed) H. E. STOKES,
Acting Secretary.

(True Copy.)

(Signed) A. MACGREGOR,
Acting Secretary to Government.

Exd. W. H. French.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT,
OOTACAMUND,
17th August 1875.

No. 1,245.

No. 178.

To

THE HONORABLE THE COLONIAL SECRETARY TO THE
GOVERNMENT OF CEYLON,

Colombo.

Separate Revenue, No. 15.

Customs.

HONORABLE SIR,—In reply to your letter of the 22nd April 1875, No. 26, I have the honor to state that a serious fraud has been committed on the Indian

revenues by the exportation of the Opium seized in Ceylon.

2. The quantity smuggled (1,000 lbs.), if covered by a pass, would have been liable to a duty of Rs. 3,645-13-4, at the prescribed rate of Rs. 600 per chest of two Indian maunds. Further, as the article was exported contrary to the Governor-General's Notification, dated 9th June 1870, it would, if seized when the attempt to export was made, have been liable to confiscation, and the parties concerned to a penalty under Section 24 of Act VI. of 1863.

3. I am to add that the consignee falsely described himself as a Government Pilot.

4. Copies of the papers referring to the case are annexed.

I have the honor to be,
Honorable Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Signed) A. MACGREGOR,
Acting Secretary to Government.

Exd. F. R. Bantleman.

Camp. Rameswaram
Dy Collector's Office.
25th June 1875

N^o 117.

From

The Dy Dy Collector
Salem District
Madras

To
W. H. Dubois Esq
Collector of Madras.

Sir,
With reference to your
last note to G. O. No. 664 dated
29th April 1875, communicated
by the Board's miscellaneous
3786 dated 4th May last, I have
the honor to report that neither
the Boat hidden leader
Barry concerned in the smuggling
nor any of her crew, have returned
and that my enquiry made in
their

Govt. of 1875: 3786.

REVENUE.

To
THE HONORABLE THE COLONIAL SECRETARY
TO THE GOVERNMENT OF CEYLON,
Colombo.

Dated August, 1875.

Recd.

Encl.

Letter, 17th August 1875, No. 1213.

AUGUST.

N^o 1178.

Opium.—Informing the Ceylon Government
that a serious fraud has been committed on the
Indian revenues by the exportation of the — seized
in Ceylon; bringing to notice that the consignment
described himself as a Government Pilot; and
forwarding copies of papers relating to the case.

1/28/79

their absence, does not show precisely how the opium was smuggled.

2. The owner of the Boat (16 Tons) is one *Seamisan Ibrahim* of *Panambur* and he ignores every thing and says he has given the entire management of the vessel to the *Tindal* and receives only a percentage of the amount realized as freight.

3. The Boat cleared off *Panambur* on the 8th March last, with a cargo of 40 banneds of rice. From the records of the *Panambur* *Substation* Office, the consignee of the cargo appears to be one *Oowera*, the *Tindal* of the Boat

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but there is no information as to who reported himself as the Consignee of the opium before the *Ceylon* authorities, the name of the man who was convicted and punished by the *Police* *Magistrate* not being given in the Judgment of the *Magistrate*. The statement that he was a pilot of *Panambur* is evidently false as it seems clear that none of the 13 pilots employed at *Panambur*, went to *Ceylon* since the commencement of the year. On enquiry from private sources, I understand that the smuggler is one *Chinna Vappa* of

of Sambar and a relation of
the Boat owner, and that
he has been carrying on illicit
traffic in opium for some time
past.

4 From the records in the
Master Attendants office it
appears that the Boat in
question sailed (owing to the
wind and current being con-
-trary) round Rameswaram,
via Mannar, and not through
the Channel, which is the direct
course to Vizagapat, the port
to which the vessel was bound.
Still I doubt very much that
the opium was shipped at Ra-
-meswaram a subport of Sambar,

1245
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-peared as the Consignor of
opium in Ceylon. The enquiry
made at Rameswaram does
not show that any opium
was shipped there. Mr. Bur-
-by, the Sea Customs Superintendent
-ent at Sambar, says it was
-evident the bags presented
before him contained only rice,
and that in consequence, he
did not examine them. From
this and from the fact that
the rice and the opium being
-glad together, does not exceed
2 tons, it is probable that the
opium was concealed in the rice

bags.

5. The opium now smuggled (1000 lbs) if covered with a pass will be liable to a duty of

Rupers. 3645-13-4 at the

prescribed rate of 600 Rupers per a chest of 2 Indian hundred.

Besides as the drug was exported con-

Vide G. O. No 1230 of the 15th July 1891 embodied in the Board's Proceedings No 3328 of the 8th August 1891 —

vey to the Governor General's notification dated 9th June 1890, it is liable to confiscation and a penalty under Section 24 of Act IV of 1863.

6. Ramasingh hundabot made his best endeavours to detect the smuggling of opium

1245/6
opium and even employed a special agency for the purpose, but there has been no detection as the advantages open to smugglers are so great and the manner in which the illicit trade is carried on, little admits of detection. There is no doubt that considerable quantities of opium are smuggled.

7. On the arrival of the Boat and its crew, I shall make further careful enquiry and submit a fuller report, but for the present it is quite clear that a serious fraud

fraud has been perpetrated
on the revenues of the Govern-
ment of India.

I have the

/Sd/ S. Ramanujam & Co

By Deputy Collector.

/True copy/

/Sd/ W. K. Dubai.

Collector.

/True copy/

Attest

By Secretary.

Sd/ H. H. H.
H.

Revenue Department

Proceedings of the Board of Revenue
dated 22nd July 1875.
No 2048.

Read the following.

No 283

From W. Mac Lachar Esq
Collector of Madras
To H. E. Stokes Esq
Acty Secretary to the
Board of Revenue Madras.

Sir,

With reference to G. O. dt.

13th O. 8th of } 29th April 1875 No 664 R. D.
4th May 1875 }
Encls. 3786

I have the honor to report that a
serious fraud has been perpetra-
-ted on the Indian revenues by
the exportation of the opium seized
in Ceylon. From the enclosed letter
from the Deputy Collector dated 25th
June No 117, it appears that
the Mohideen Kadir Bux cleared
from Paumbur on the 8th March

* copy.

Enclosure in P. 22.

Proceedings of the Board
of Revenue to the

Secretary to Govern-

ment P. O. dt.

22nd July 1875

No 2935/75

Jan 8/75

Copy of the Salt

Deputy Collector's

Order by dated 25th

June 1875.

last with a cargo of 400 bundles
 of rice and that the opium was
 in all probability concealed in the
 rice bags. Mr. Busby is not a
 sharp man and seems to have
 passed the bags without exami-
 -nation. The duty would have
 been Refus. 3645-13-4. The
 information obtained is not very
 complete owing to the absence of
 all the crew of the Boat.

Collector's Office } I have &c
 Madrasa. } /Sd/ W. M. Dubae.
 8th July 1895 } Collector.

Submitted for the information of Gp-
 -ment with reference to G.O. dated
 29th April 1895 &c 664.

/True Copy & Extract/

H. H. H.

By Secretary

To

The Secretary to Government R.D.
 with copy of enclosure.

[Handwritten initials]

N^o 1245 17 Aug 75
 To The Colonial Secretary
 for the Govt of Ceylon
 Colombo.

Sir
 In reply to your letter
 of the 22^d April 1875 No 26
 I have the honor to state
 that a serious fraud
 has been committed
 on the Indian Revenue
 by the exportation of
 opium seized in Ceylon.

The quantity smuggled
 (1000 lbs) if covered by a
 Pass would have been liable to a
 duty of Rs 3645 = 13.4 at
 the prescribed rate of
 600 Rs per chest of 2 hundred
 Further as the article
 was exported contrary to the
 Governor General's notification
 of 9 June 1870, it would
 if seized when the attempt

The papers of the
 arrived at the Custom
 Govt - it is the
 & finally stated that
 the (Consignment) of opium
 the (Customs) Officer
 falsely described himself
 as a Govt. Officer

Note the actual loss
 report of the amount
 of duty - or in its
 stead, the entire
 value of the
 opium plus the
 amount of the
 fine not ex-
 ceeding 1000 Rs
 that was the measure of

by 15 July 1875-86
 29 April 75-329-350

Recd: 1875: 8.11.18
 1.2.2939
 Proceedings of the
 Board of Revenue

22^d April 1875
 28^d April 1875
 29^d April 1875

The Govt cannot the further
 report promised.

but
 of the Govt. 1245-1708. July 1875
 @ submitting for the signature
 of the Govt with reference
 to the Govt. 1245-1708. July 1875
 of the Govt. 1245-1708. July 1875
 a serious fraud has been
 perpetrated on the Indian
 Revenue by the exportation
 of the opium seized in
 Ceylon.
 With Obedience

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Report was made, have
been liable to suspension
& especially under Sec
24 of Act VI of 1863.

I am to add that
the carrier falsely
described himself
as a Govt. Pilot.
Copies of the papers
referring to the case
are annexed —

Open Sample
into Cylinders

For Mr. H. H. H.

Des Moines

