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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

Revenue DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.	1185	Press
~~B.P. No.~~		~~Mis.~~
Dated	29.8.1876	196.

D.A.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

No. 303. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 2nd August 1876, No. 1,960 :—

Read the following letter from the Hon. P. MACFAYDEN, Chairman of the Chamber of Commerce, to the Hon. W. HUDLESTON, Chief Secretary to Government, Ootacamund, dated Madras, 22nd June 1876.

THE Chamber have desired me to lay before Government the enclosed copy of correspondence that has just passed between the Chamber and the Collector of Sea Customs on the subject of the introduction of new forms of Shipping and Entry Bills. You will observe that the Collector entirely agrees with the Chamber as to the inadvisability of frequent departmental changes like that complained of. It appears, in the case referred to, to have acted under orders of the Government of India, which were issued without the Mercantile community being afforded an opportunity of remonstrating. The Chamber consider that changes involving a great addition to the already heavy labor of passing goods through the Custom-house should neither be hastily resolved upon nor hastily enforced, and they will be very glad if a representation of their opinion can be made to the Government of India.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

From the Hon. P. MACFAYDEN, Chairman, Chamber of Commerce, to R. J. MELVILLE, Esq., Acting Collector of Sea Customs, Madras, dated Madras, 10th June 1876.

I AM desired by the Chamber, with adverting to your notification of the 25th April on the subject of the introduction of new forms of Shipping and Entry Bills from the 15th instant, to solicit your attention to the inconvenience that departmental changes of this description entail upon the Mercantile community. The Chamber do not question your authority to determine upon changes in routine without studying the convenience of merchants, but they are confident you will admit the desirability of such changes being ordered as infrequently as possible, and only when they are obviously desirable. The labor of getting an office to master the routine of the Custom-house, and the difficulty of enforcing the observance of new regulations, are so considerable that the Chamber are constrained to deprecate the disposition that is being shown to obtain a technical uniformity with Bengal, which imposes obstacles in the way of local trade without, so far as the Chamber have yet ascertained, conferring the smallest advantage on any body.

2. It will, therefore, be gratifying to the Chamber should you resolve to postpone the enforcement of the new forms of Bills referred to in your notification; but should that be now impracticable, I have the honor to beg that you will take the Chamber's opinion on the inadvisability of frequent departmental changes into consideration on the next occasion that an innovation is proposed for adoption.

(True Copy

igned) C. A. LAWSON,
Secretary, Chamber of Commerce.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
29th August 1876.*

ENCLOSURE No. 2.

From R. J. MELVILLE, Esq., Acting Collector of Sea Customs, Madras, to the Honorable
P. MACFAYDEN, Chairman of the Chamber of Commerce, dated 13th June 1876,
No. 1,024.

In acknowledging receipt of your letter, dated 10th June 1876, I have the honor to inform
you that I entirely agree with you on the inadvisability of frequent departmental changes of the
nature under notice.

2. I at the same time regret that I am unable to postpone the introduction of the new
forms of Bills referred to in your letter, their immediate introduction having been ordered by the
Government of India.

(True Copy.)

(Signed) C. A. LAWSON,
Secretary, Chamber of Commerce.

REFERRED to the Board of Revenue for report.

OOTACAMUND,
26th June 1876.

(Signed) D. F. CARMICHAEL,
Secretary to Government, R.D.

THE system of demanding duplicates of Entry and Shipping Bills was ordered to
be introduced at the suggestion of Mr. O'Connor, who was lately deputed by the
Government of India to inspect the working of the Trade Department in this Presi-
dency, and this is absolutely necessary to ensure the early preparation of the Trade
Returns to which the Government of India attach great importance.

2. As regards the forms, those now introduced are the same as those used in Cal-
cutta, which the Government of India apparently wish to see introduced everywhere—
Vide letter from Government of India, recorded in G.O., dated 11th February 1875,
No. 220, and Board's Proceedings, dated 29th March 1876, No. 861. There is not

* Marked A.
† Do. B.

much difference between the forms them-
selves, as will be seen from the new* and
old† forms which are herewith submitted,

except that the classification of the articles is more detailed than before, and the entries
are required to be summarized. The detailed information is indispensable, as it
is required for the preparation of the Monthly and Annual Returns, and the Summary
does not entail any considerable amount of trouble on the trade. The Board are of
opinion that the forms now introduced must be retained and should be presented in
duplicate.

(True Copies and Extract.)

(Signed) C. A. GALTON,
Acting Secretary.

No. 309.

ORDER THEREON, 29th August 1876, No. 1,185.

Separate Revenue, No. 34.
Customs.

THE Chamber of Commerce will be
informed that the new forms of Shipping
and Entry Bills have been considered in
communication with the Government of

India to be indispensable for the Monthly and Annual returns of Trade, and the trouble

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
29th August 1876.*

they entail is not so great as to counterbalance the administrative advantages secured.
The Chamber may be assured that frequent changes are as inconvenient to Govern-
ment as to the merchants; but where they are necessary, a moderate increase of
trouble involved by them ought not to interfere with their being duly carried out.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) D. F. CARMICHAEL,
Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue.
„ the Chairman of the Chamber of Commerce.

Exd. W. J. Lewis.

1185
The Chamber of Commerce 7

Madras, 22nd June 1876

From

The Honble P. Macfadyen
Chairman, Chamber of Commerce

To

The Honble W. Suddleston,
Chief Secretary to Government
Cotacamund

Sir,

The Chamber have desired me to lay before Government the enclosed copy of Correspondence that has just passed between the Chamber and the Collector of Sea Customs on the subject of the introduction of new forms of Shipping and Entry Bills. You will observe that the Collector entirely agrees with the Chamber as to the inadvisability of frequent Departmental changes like that complained of. He appears, in the case referred to, to have acted under orders of the Government of India which were issued without the mercantile community being afforded an opportunity of remonstrating.

Govt. of 1876 Madras.

REVENUE.

To

THE BOARD OF REVENUE,

Secy, Secy, Secy.

Dated August, 29th.

Recd.

Encl.

G.O., 29th August 1876, No. 1,185.

AUGUST.

Nos. 308-309.

Shipping and Entry Bills.—Ordering the Chamber of Commerce to be informed that the new forms of — have been considered in consultation with the Government of India to be indispensable for the Monthly and Annual returns of Trade.

strating. The Chamber consider that changes involving a great addition to the already heavy labour of passing goods through the Custom House should neither be hastily resolved upon nor hastily enforced, and they will be very glad if a representation of their opinion can be made to the Government of India.

I have the honor to be

Sir,

Your most obedient servant

Racapady

Chairman

1185/4
The Chamber of Commerce
Madras, 10th June 1846

From

The Honble P. Racapadyen
Chairman, Chamber of Commerce

To

R. S. Melville Esq
Acting Collector of Sea Customs
Madras

Sir,

I am desired by the Chamber, with advertence to your Notification of the 25th April on the subject of the introduction of new forms of Shipping and Entry Bills from the 15th instant to solicit your attention to the inconvenience that Departmental changes of this description entail upon the mercantile community. The Chamber do not question your authority to determine upon changes in routine without studying the convenience of merchants, but they are confident you will admit the desirability of such changes being ordered as infrequently as possible and only when they are obviously desirable. The labour of getting an office to master the routine of the Custom House, and the difficulty of enforcing the observance of new regulations are so considerable, that the Chamber are constrained

constrained to deprecate the disposition that is being shewn to obtain a technical uniformity with Bengal which imposes obstacles in the way of local trade without, so far as the Chamber have yet ascertained, conferring the smallest advantage on anybody.

It will, therefore, be gratifying to the Chamber should you resolve to postpone the enforcement of the use of the new Forms of Bills referred to in your Notification; but should that be now impracticable I have the honor to beg that you will take the Chamber's opinion on the inadvisability of frequent Departmental changes into consideration on the next occasion that an innovation is proposed for adoption.

I have the honor to be
Sir

Your most obedient servant
(Signed) P. Macfadyen
Chairman

A True copy

C. Lawson
Secretary

1185/5
Sea Custom House
Madras, 13th June 1876

No. 1024.

From

The Acting Collector of Sea Customs

To

The Chairman,
Chamber of Commerce
Madras

Sir,

In acknowledging receipt of your letter dated 10th June 1876, I have the honor to inform you that I entirely agree with you on the inadvisability of frequent Departmental changes of the nature under notice.

2. I, at the same time, regret that I am unable to postpone the introduction of the new Forms of Bills referred to in your letter, their immediate introduction having been ordered by the Government of India.

I have the honor to be

Your most obedient servant

(Signed) R. J. Melville

Ag. Collector, Sea Customs

A True copy

C. Lawson

Secretary, C. of C.

Referred to the Hon. Secy. for Repts.

Ootacamund
26 June 1876

P. Macfayden
Secy. to Govt. Madras

Received 28th
Entered and returned 29th
Ag. Secretary.

Subscribing with all
concerns, and the Chamber
has been informed by the
Hon. Secy. of the Chamber
and the Secy. of the Govt.
of the introduction of the
new forms of Bills, and
the Chamber of Commerce
has been informed by the
Hon. Secy. of the Chamber
and the Secy. of the Govt.

4. 29 August 1876
No. 1185

26 June 1876

The Chairman of the
Chamber of Commerce

Revenue 1876
No. 2585

No. 1,960.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE, dated 2nd August 1876.

Read the following letter from the Hon. P. MACFAYDEN, Chairman of the Chamber of Commerce, to the Hon. W. HUDLESTON, Chief Secretary to Government, Ootacamund, dated Madras, 22nd June 1876:—

THE Chamber have desired me to lay before Government the enclosed copy of correspondence that has just passed between the Chamber and the Collector of Sea Customs on the subject of the introduction of new forms of Shipping and Entry Bills. You will observe that the Collector entirely agrees with the Chamber as to the inadvisability of frequent departmental changes like that complained of. It appears, in the case referred to, to have acted under orders of the Government of India, which were issued without the Mercantile community being afforded an opportunity of remonstrating. The Chamber consider that changes involving a great addition to the already heavy labor of passing goods through the Custom-house should neither be hastily resolved upon nor hastily enforced, and they will be very glad if a representation of their opinion can be made to the Government of India.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

From the Hon. P. MACFAYDEN, Chairman, Chamber of Commerce, to R. J. MELVILLE, Esq., Acting Collector of Sea Customs, Madras, dated Madras, 10th June 1876.

I AM desired by the Chamber, with advertence to your notification of the 25th April on the subject of the introduction of new forms of Shipping and Entry Bills from the 15th instant, to solicit your attention to the inconvenience that departmental changes of this description entail upon the Mercantile community. The Chamber do not question your authority to determine upon changes in routine without studying the convenience of merchants, but they are confident you will admit the desirability of such changes being ordered as infrequently as possible, and only when they are obviously desirable. The labor of getting an office to master the routine of the Custom-house, and the difficulty of enforcing the observance of new regulations, are so considerable that the Chamber are constrained to deprecate the disposition that is being shown to obtain a technical uniformity with Bengal, which imposes obstacles in the way of local trade without, so far as the Chamber have yet ascertained, conferring the smallest advantage on any body.

2. It will, therefore, be gratifying to the Chamber should you resolve to postpone the enforcement of the new forms of Bills referred to in your notification; but should that be now impracticable, I have the honor to beg that you will take the Chamber's opinion on the inadvisability of frequent departmental changes into consideration on the next occasion that an innovation is proposed for adoption.

(True Copy.)

(Signed) G. A. LAWSON,
Secretary, Chamber of Commerce.

ENCLOSURE No. 2.

From R. J. MELVILLE, Esq., Acting Collector of Sea Customs, Madras, to the Honorable P. MACFAYDEN, Chairman of the Chamber of Commerce, dated 13th June 1876, No. 1,024.

IN acknowledging receipt of your letter, dated 10th June 1876, I have the honor to inform you that I entirely agree with you on the inadvisability of frequent departmental changes of the nature under notice.

2. I at the same time regret that I am unable to postpone the introduction of the new forms of Bills referred to in your letter, their immediate introduction having been ordered by the Government of India.

(True Copy.)

(Signed) G. A. LAWSON,
Secretary, Chamber of Commerce.

REFERRED to the Board of Revenue for report.

OOTACAMUND,
26th June 1876.

(Signed) D. F. CARMICHAEL,
Secretary to Government, R.D.

THE system of demanding duplicates of Entry and Shipping Bills was ordered to be introduced at the suggestion of Mr. O'Connor, who was lately deputed by the Government of India to inspect the working of the Trade Department in this Presidency, and this is absolutely necessary to ensure the early preparation of the Trade Returns to which the Government of India attach great importance.

2. As regards the forms, those now introduced are the same as those used in Calcutta, which the Government of India apparently wish to see introduced everywhere—*Vide* letter from Government of India, recorded in G.O., dated 11th February 1875, No. 220, and Board's Proceedings, dated 29th March 1876, No. 861. There is not

much difference between the forms themselves, as will be seen from the new* and old† forms which are herewith submitted,

* Marked A.
† Do. B.

except that the classification of the articles is more detailed than before, and the entries are required to be summarized. The detailed information is indispensable, as it is required for the preparation of the Monthly and Annual Returns, and the Summary does not entail any considerable amount of trouble on the trade. The Board are of opinion that the forms now introduced must be retained and should be presented in duplicate.

(True Copies and Extract.)

To the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department,
with two Forms, to be returned.
Copy to the Collector of Sea Customs, Madras.

Exd. W. J. Lewis.

PROCEEDINGS, 2ND AUGUST 1876, No. 1,960.

Copy 14 Aug 1876

BOARD of REVENUE,
MADRAS.

26th 1876, Duplicate

11/3332

Recd. 11/3332-29 Aug 1876

Encl. 2

AUGUST.

No. 1,960.

Shipping and Entry Bills.—Submitting to Government Board's opinion that forms now introduced for — should be retained and presented in duplicate.

Revenue Dept.

1185

C No 1185

Proceedings of the Madras Government
Under date the 29th Aug 1876

Recd Board's Proceedings
23 Aug 1876 N. 1960.

The Chamber of
Commerce will be
informed that the new
forms of Shipping and
Entry Bills have been
adopted after full
consideration & they
to be
indispensable for the
monthly and annual
returns and the trouble
they entail on the trade
is not so great as to
counterbalance the
administrative advantages
secured. The Chamber
will be duly consulted
may be assured that

23/8

23/8

26/8

Subd. to the Secy to Govt 21 Aug 1876
C. 181 Aug 1876

on all occasions in
which their opinion
may be considered valuable
Frequent changes are as
inconvenient to Gov^t as
they may prove to be to the
merchants, but where
they are necessary ^{consideration}
of the trouble involved by them
ought not ~~to~~ ^{be} ~~to~~ ^{be}
cannot be allowed to
interfere with this being
duly carried out.

Should not say this as I
don't know the Chamber
members
But

of the Board of Commerce
The Chairman of the Chamber of
Commerce

40/3

4.0
New Forms of Shipping
Hunting Bells

Cure

despatch as arranged
in N.Y. first

Grey
1/16

see slip

Printed (Hms) for the 21: Aug R 25: Aug
18: Aug/76 R 21: Aug