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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

Revenue DEPARTMENT

G.O. No. 1684 Press
B.P.- No. Mis.

Dated 15- 11- 1896 -196

Not to be folded or roughly handled

1684/1

1684/2

REVENUE DEPARTMENT,
FORT ST. GEORGE,
15th November 1876.

No. 1,634.

FROM THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

DEP

evenue, No. 18.

Customs.

SIR,

dated 24th M. 1876, No. , requesting suggestions in regard to the representation to be made, in the interests of India, to the French Government in the approaching negotiations for a new Treaty of Commerce and Navigation between the United Kingdom and France, I am directed to forward the accompanying Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, from which it will be seen that, in the opinion of the officers consulted, the Chamber of Commerce, and certain mercantile firms here, the following points need consideration:—

(1.) The high duty levied in France on pepper exported from this country.

(2.) The "Sur taxe d'entrepôt" or duty levied on different articles imported into France, but *not* directly.

(3.) The system under which duty is charged on raw sugar imported into France from foreign countries.

(4.) The levy of import duty in France on coffee, and generally the reduction of French duties on Indian raw produce.

2. I am to suggest also the desirability of proposing a rectification of the frontier line; the British and French territories in the South of India so interlacing as to cause great facilities for the smuggling of goods and evasion of customs duties. Quite recently the subject was brought to the notice of this Government in connection with the transit of liquor under French passes through British territory. The sketch map enclosed will show how irregularly the line runs at Pondicherry. The French Local Government, as the Government of India are doubtless aware, have always shewn a strong disinclination to come to a settlement on the point.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,
(Signed) D. F. CARMICHAEL,
Secretary to Government.

Exd. F. B. Bantleman.

No. 250. Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 30th October 1876, No. 2,696.

Read the following letters:—

From the Collector of Ganjam,	dated	25th	August	1876,	No. 2,821.
„ „ of Vizagapatam,	„	31st	„	„	„ 1,340.
„ „ of Godavery,	„	21st	„	„	„ 246.
„ „ of Kistna,	„	4th	October	„	„ 1,762.
„ „ of Nellore,	„	20th	July	„	„ 2,021.
„ „ of South Arcot,	„	19th	August	„	„ 380.
„ „ of Tanjore,	„	12th	October	„	„ 3,709.
„ „ of Madura,	„	23rd	August	„	„ 320.
„ „ of Tinnevelly,	„	8th	„	„	„ 483.
„ „ of South Canara,	„	4th	October	„	„ 1,899.
„ „ of Malabar,	„	4th	„	„	„ 268.
„ „ of „	„	13th	„	„	„ „
„ „ of Sea Customs, Madras,	„	8th	August	„	„ 1,368.

In the Board's Proceedings, dated 29th June 1876, No. 1,659, the Collectors of the Maritime Districts were called upon, with reference to G. O., dated 6th June 1876, No. 756, to report, after consulting such local Firms as do business with France, regarding the representations which it is desirable to make in the interests of India to the French Government in the approaching negotiation for a new treaty of Commerce and Navigation between the United Kingdom and France. The letters above recorded are in reply.

2. The Chamber of Commerce at Madras, who were consulted by the Collector of Madras, are of opinion that the duty levied in France on Pepper, the produce of this country, is so oppressively high that it checks commerce in the article and affords a strong inducement to smuggling across the Italian Frontier, Messrs. Arbuthnot and Co. are also of the same opinion and suggest the reduction of duty. The quantity of Pepper exported from this Presidency during the last three years is shown below:—

A.—*Statement showing the Quantity and Value of Pepper exported to Foreign Ports during the last three years.*

—	1873-74.		1874-75.		1875-76.	
	lbs.	rs.	lbs.	rs.	lbs.	rs.
France	48,15,372	5,99,912	27,38,274	3,80,061	31,80,042	4,72,149
Arabia	2,83,351	37,948	3,00,776	41,706	1,66,309	25,345
United Kingdom ...	5,65,885	75,789	3,39,124	45,649	3,01,224	1,07,716
Persia...	1,14,292	15,306	2,548	340	1,19,268	17,685
Aden	30,241	4,051	98,533	13,196	...	...
Trieste	6,878	921	...	...	...	...
Egypt	...	...	82,216	11,011	77,866	10,128
All other countries ...	1,49,522	20,025	1,73,993	23,633	3,25,613	51,416
Total ...	59,65,544	7,53,952	37,44,461	5,15,596	41,70,323	6,84,639

3. The Merchants at Malabar complain of the surcharge called the "Surtaxe d' entrepôt" levied at various rates on different articles imported into France indirectly. For instance, if Pepper or Coffee is shipped to Marseilles direct, it is liable to less duty

than if shipped by P. and O. Steamer to Southampton and thence re-shipped to Havre or Bordeaux. This the merchants consider bears hardly on ports which do not enjoy direct steam communication with France, and suggest that endeavour be made to obtain its abolition; or to exemption from it on production of certificate showing that the goods were originally shipped for France. It seems to be the practice for Steam Ship Companies running to English ports to grant through bills of lading to France and other countries, and to arrange for the goods being transhipped in England and forwarded to their destination. In such cases, the Surtaxe is charged in France. It is even levied on the whole cargo if a vessel, bound for a French port, touches any where else upon the voyage and then takes in any, even the smallest quantity of, goods of the same kind. Since the opening of the Suez Canal, shipments by steamers direct to French ports have increased, but the steamers usually call at other ports in the Mediterranean and do not escape the Surtaxe.

4. Messrs. Minchin and Co. of Ganjam state that the commercial interests of India suffer by the system pursued by the French Government in regard to duty charged on raw sugar imported into France from foreign countries. Special rates, they say, are imposed on foreign raw sugars, which they say have also been deprived of the British market owing to the annihilation of the British refining trade under the system of bounties involved in the way the duties are managed in France. The duty is charged according to the color which is supposed to represent the quantity of white sugar contained. A drawback is also allowed on the same principle, *i.e.*, with reference to the color when sugar is re-exported. The effect of this is, that where import duty is collected with reference to the color, the French Merchant obtains a larger drawback than the duty paid and thus practically obtains a bounty on his exports. For instance, the French fabricant colors his sugar so that a quantity of 100 tons imported may, according to the French standard, be considered to yield 70 tons of white, the refiner buys it and pays import duty accordingly, takes out from the same 80 tons of white, and exporting it again receives a drawback of duty on that quantity (80 tons). This enables the French refiner to sell his sugar in the London market below its cost price there, thus shutting out the Indian sugars, and beating the English refiners out of the market. This is a subject which has attracted much attention, and has, the Board understand from the newspapers, formed the subject of protracted negotiation.

	Exports of Sugar in 1875-76 to Foreign Countries. Quantity. CWTS.	Value. RS.
United Kingdom... ...	2,80,456	12,94,511
Ceylon	10,506	45,438
Arabia	2,961	21,143
France	...	...
United States	15,110	50,640
Other countries	600	4,358
Total ...	3,09,633	14,16,090

	Exports of Coffee in 1875-76 to Foreign Countries. Quantity. CWTS.	Value. RS.
United Kingdom ...	1,69,709	81,45,489
France	1,21,596	48,23,959
Trieste	36,399	15,41,955
Turkey	10,852	4,35,176
Italy	4,898	2,00,944
Australia	4,582	2,07,623
Other countries	9,558	3,65,462
Total ...	3,57,594	157,20,608

5. Since 1870, duty has been collected in France on Coffee imported from this country. It is stated to be heavy being 30 per cent of the value. The Collector of Madras and the Merchants of Malabar suggest that it should be reduced if not abolished.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
15th November 1876.

1684/3

6. No specific suggestions other than those above mentioned are made in regard to the duties levied in France. It is generally proposed that the duties on Indian raw produce imported into France should be reduced to the level of those in force in the United Kingdom; but it would be hopeless to urge any such proposals.

7. As regards the duties charged here on exports to, or imports from, France, Messrs. Poulain Frere and Co., a Firm at Madras, suggest a reduction of duty on Indigo and Rice exported and on Claret and Burgandy imported. The Collector of Madras recommends the reduction of duty on Indigo, but does not consider the other reductions necessary. The Merchants of Vizagapatam make the same recommendation as regards duties on wines, but the Board are not prepared to recommend reduction in these duties which fall on opulent classes in this country.

8. The Board have not before them the tariff now in force in France and England and are therefore unable to make definite proposals, beyond suggesting that endeavor should be made to obtain reduction of French duties on Indian raw produce. Of course the terms applicable to France should also be made to apply to French possessions in India. The complaints made by the Merchants of Malabar in regard to "Surtaxe d' entrepôt" should also be brought to the notice of the Home Government. The Board do not think that the question of the reduction of duty on Indigo and Rice exported from this country need be considered at present.

(True Extract.)

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

(True Copy.)

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

Exd. F. R. Bantleman.

Mincing Bros & Co
to
Mr. Commissioner Inquest &c.

1684/4

C. G. Trevelyan Esquire
Collector of Customs
Chittagong

Sir,

We have the honor to acknowledge receipt of the Board's Proceedings No. 1659 dated 29th June 1876 and in reply would point out that the Commercial interests of India suffer very prejudicially from the system pursued by the French Government of giving a large bounty on the export of refined sugar from France, in conjunction with the imposition of a special Duty on Raw sugars of foreign production entering that country.

The bounty referred to arises from assessing the Duty according to the color of the sugar, on the supposition that the color indicates the saccharine richness, i.e. the percentage of white sugar obtainable from the sample. Experience

in sugars of natural color such a criterion of strength is of little value and where the sugars are artificially colored is wholly delusive.--

The French fabricant always colors his sugars, the French Refiner buys them, pays the duty according to the color, refines them and exporting the white sugar to the London market, receives a drawback on the total amount of white sugar so exported.- Thus the French Refiner buys 100 Tons of sugar of such a color that according to the French standards it is supposed not to yield more than 70 tons of whites and pays a Duty accordingly on the 100 Tons of dark sugar as if it were 70 Tons of white, he refines the sugar and takes out 80 Tons of whites & and exporting this, receives as drawback the Duty on 80 Tons of white sugar, thus being given a Bounty

Equal to the Duty on 10 Tons white sugar for the exportation of 80 Tons.- 1684. 5

Under such a system, the greater the Duty, the greater the Bounty and of late years the duty has been raised enormously in accordance with the necessities of the Treasury, so that at the present time the Bounty amounts to 4/6 a cwt. which enables the French Refiner to pay the charges for placing his sugar on the London Market and to sell it there below cost price.-

To compete much longer with such a system is impossible, for the British refining trade which languishing for years from the same cause is now at its last gasp.-

No British Refiners, no English market for Raw sugars, so that India which in a fair field of competition would take a foremost place as a sugar

sugar producing country, is more likely under present circumstances to go backward than to go forward.—

India with its power of production and cheap labor would be in the event of finding a fair market for its sugar, obtain the advantages of English capital and skill being sunk in the industry to the great increase of the production and the quickening of the collateral trades of husbandry, machine manufacture with its foundries and skilled labor, and the carrying trades both by land & water.—

To sum up then, it is seen that the French Government in an indirect way imposes a nearly prohibitory tax on the importation of sugars other than its own into England, at the same time imposing a direct tax on the importation into France, thus shutting out the Indian with the British Colonial Sugars from the markets of the world.

We have &c.

(Signed) Jerningham

Actg Collr for Collector.

(True Copy)

Actg Collr for Collector.

Enclosure No 2 in Despatch from Madras No 1684 dated 25th August 1882.

From No 2821

C. G. Master Esquire

Collector of Canjeeram

To

The Secretary to the

Board of Revenue.

Madras.

Dated Camp Russelkonda 25th August 1882.

Sir,

Adverting to the Board's Proceedings of the 29th June last No 1659 (received in my office on the 26th July) I have the honor to state that in the absence of any information as to rates of Customs duties levied in France on Exports and imports &c, I find myself unable to express any opinion or to make any representations in connection with the approaching negotiations for a new Treaty between the United Kingdom and France.—

2. I have asked the Supt Trichinopoly

Bab.

1684/6

Bros & Co for an expression of their views and enclose, for the information of the Board copy of a letter dated 11th instant which I have received in reply. Their statement seems to me deserving of serious consideration.-

3. Neither the Company nor the Calingapatam Sea Customs Superintendents are able to express any opinion in the matter and state that there are no merchants at their ports capable of handling the subject.- I have not yet heard from the Master Attendant Coconada ports; but should any thing important be received from him, I will communicate the same to you.-

4. As the Board in their proceedings dated 9th (received 21st) instant Miscellaneous No. 6765 again called for the early submission of this report, I do not think it proper to delay

it any longer on this account.- 1684/84 2/8 1870

I have, &c.
(Signed) Thos. Pearson Price
Chairman
Board of Trade
Fort St. George
9th December 1870

Copy
Forwarded
for information
to the Collector
Gun. Clerk

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1684/8

Bimlipatam, 25th August 1876.

To
The Assistant Collector
of Vizagapatam District
Vizagapatam

Sir, We have the honor to acknowledge receipt
your letter dated 22d instant.
Want of information and documents still prevents
to give you the "Report" required by the Board – we
te about it to some friends in Pondicherry and have not
forwarded as yet with any reply:
All we can mention, personally, regarding this District
this:
Our principal, and almost sole, article, we can say, of
merce with France is Gingelly Seed, which, since last
(owing to the Revised Tariff of British-India) does not
any export-duty, and in France, since some years
o, (we cannot precise), has been freed of any import-duty,
thereby allows a certain animation to the Staple.
Such measure is doubtless very desirable for Trade
general and we trust it will continue good.
As to Goods imported from France in the District,
have not had much to do of late years, owing probably
high duties imposed on many of them, and we believe
a reduction for instance of some 40 or 50 p% on the
port-duty on Wines & Spirits would facilitate a larger
and

M. Ponon considers that rice
export trade in rice from Calinga-
patam to Bourbon has been
suppressed

Recd G.O. [illegible] Nov 76 No 1634

1876 16339
Collector of Ganjam
To Secretary to the Board of Revenue Madras.
Dated 25th August 76.
Desp. 29th
Recd. 1st
Rev 4871/76
No. 2821
Enclo: 1
Expressing inability to offer any opinion regarding Negotiations for a New Treaty between the United Kingdom and France & enclosing copy of Messrs. Ince? [illegible] letter
Rep. 18/9/76.

P. Wlcmt. Hall
Comr. of Maritime
do
Oct. 76

1684/9

and more animating trade. — To instance, we can state that a cask of Claret received lately from France, via Pondichery, for ₹ 50/. had to pay ₹ 46/. for import-duty, tantamount to prohibition. Should both Governments of France & Great Britain revise their respective tariffs upon the Venture "libre échange" principle, in lieu of the present "protection" system, the Public will be grateful to them.

We are, Sir,

your most obed.t

Servants

M. Simon considers that the export trade in rice from Calingapatam to Bourbon has been encouraged

Rijnlandsche Bank Amsterdam 29th August 1876.

Messrs Cox & Co

Agents for Cox & Holland

Copenhagen.

1884/10

Dear Sirs

We have received your Circular of 25th inst.

Amsterdam

Read 29 Aug 76

We are requested by the Board of Governors of the Rijnlandsche Bank to say that it is quite impossible for us to give a Guarantee against the loss of Shares which may be sent to Amsterdam without the necessary Coupons attached, and we are therefore obliged to return the Shares which you have sent us.

We are, Dear Sirs,

Yours faithfully

for Rijnlandsche Bank

[illegible]

1826
Delaware
Enclosure No 1.
Statistics from
the Collector of
Virginia returns dated
24 September
1826, No 1340

Salt Water 62791
170

Statistics Return
of Goods Wares and
Merchandize with
Invoices

Calingapatnam used to be an important port, but now belongs to the past - and statistics, if looked at, would, we presume, prove a decrease in the cultivation of Rice in the Ganjam District. We are certain the trade would revive if Government were to levy a duty of 2 annas only per bag - It would allow us to compete with Cochin China, whence some large quantities are exported to Bombay -

It is to be desired also that duty should be much reduced upon wine & Spirits - It would materially increase the trade between the two Countries - The present duty is almost prohibitive -

We have the honor to be
Sir
Your most obed[t] Servants
Wm Leisure and Brothers
Edwards -

Parl[y] Paper
1523
24 Augt 76

1876

No 1340 Vizagapatam Collr's Office,
Camp Vizianagram
31st August 1876

1684/12

From T. H. D. Goodrich Esqr
Acting Collector

To C. D. Galton Esqr
Secy to the Board of Revenue,
Madras.

Sir, In answer to the reference contained in Proceedings of the Board No. 1659 dated 29th June 1876, I have the honor to report that I have consulted those whose knowledge led me to expect special knowledge of the trade with France and its prospects

2. I enclose the letters of the two French firms of Simon & Co and Perreaux Frères of Pondicherry M. Simon considers that the export trade in rice from Calingapatam to Bombay has been suppressed

Caliingapatam used to be an important port, but now belongs to the past - and Statistics, if looked at, would, we presume, prove a decrease in the cultivation of Rice in the Ganjam District. We are certain the trade would revive if Government were to levy a duty of 2 annas only per bag. It would allow us to compete with Cochin China, whose ports now large quantities are exported to Bombay.

It is to be desired also that duty should be much reduced upon wine & spirits. It would materially increase the trade between the two Countries. The present duty is almost prohibitive.

We have the honor to be
Sir
Your most obed[t] Servants
Wm Leisure Brothers
E Leisure

Calingapatam
24 Aug[t] 76

1323

Vizagapatam Collr's Office
No. 1340. Camp Vizianagram
31st August 1876
1684/12

From W. H. A. Goodrich Esq
Acting Collector

To C. A. Galton Esq
Sy. Secretary to the Board of Revenue
Madras.

Sir, In answer to the reference contained in Proceedings of the Board No. 1659 dated 29th June 1876, I have the honor to report that I have consulted those whose business led me to acquire special knowledge of the trade with France and its prospects.

2. I enclose the letters of the two French firms of Simon & Co and Ferreaux Frères of Pondicherry. M. Simon considers that the export trade in rice from Calingapatam to Bombay has been unprecedented

unprocced by the export duty of 6 annas per bag. I believe however that the export of rice from Calingapatam is still considerable. and that other markets have now the preference.

3. The reduction of duty upon Wines and Spirits generally does not commend itself to me. Upon Light Claret imported it would the duty is extremely high, the Class however upon whom all the duty paid upon wine falls is a comparatively opulent class. The admission of light wine free or nearly free would raise up difficulties in our treatment of beer and disturb important interests.

4. The most important branch of the existing trade is that in oil-producing seeds and Rice trade is hampered by no duties.

I have the Honor to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient Servt.

Sdg. Collector.

Ld. &c.

1684/14

Gosaury District
Collector's Office
Canada 21st August
1876

No 246

From

James Hope Esqre
Collector

To

C. A. Galton Esqre
Secretary to the
Board of Revenue
Madras

Sir,

With reference to the Board's Proceedings dated 29th June 1876 No. 1659 calling for a report on the approaching negotiation of the new Treaty of Commerce and Navigation between the United Kingdom and France, I have the honor to state that the Local Chamber of Commerce informed me that as the articles usually shipped from this Port to France

1

1876

Collector's Office
Cannanore 9th Oct. 76

Sir,

In reply to your Proceedings No. 1659 dated 29th June 1876 calling for a report on the approaching negotiation of the new Treaty of Commerce and Navigation between the United Kingdom and France, I have the honor to state that the Local Chamber of Commerce informed me that as the articles usually shipped from this Port to France

P. Hope
Collector

are all duty free they wish for no change, and also that as there is no direct import trade between this Port and France the Chamber have no experience on that point. Members of other local Bodies have also been consulted and they are of the same opinion.

The imports into the Small French Settlement of Yanaon are so insignificant that no change will in my opinion have any effect there.

I may however be allowed to state that the abolition of certain Export duties and especially of the one on Oil Seeds in November last has caused a considerable loss of Revenue to this District but whether this removal of Duty will cause any increase in the exportation of Oil Seeds it is difficult to say at present owing to the failure of the May crop for want of seasonable rain.

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

James Hoke
Dy Collector.

168/15

1856

are all duty free they wish for no change, and also that as there is no direct import trade between this Port and France the Chamber have no experience on that point. Members of other local Bodies have also been consulted and they are of the same opinion.

The imports into the Small French Settlement of Yanam are so insignificant that no change will in my opinion have any effect there.

I may however be allowed to state that the abolition of certain Export duties and especially of the one on Oil Seeds in November last has caused a considerable loss of Revenue

1856/15

to this District but whether this removal of Duty will cause any increase in the exportation of Oil Seeds it is difficult to say at present owing to the failure of the May crop for want of seasonable rain.

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

James Stokes
Dy Collector.

1654/16

Kistna District Collector's Offices

No 1762 Masulipatam 4th October 1876.

From,

The Collector, Kistna District,

To,

The Secretary, Board of Revenue,
Madras.

Sir,

I have the honor to reply to Board's Proceedings No 1659 of the 29th June 1876.

2. There are no firms or merchants residing here that are engaged in business with France. When any export is made from here it is done for the convenience of the merchant making it, a resident of Coconada, and he sends some one over to manage the shipment. It depends almost entirely on the Canals whether this port or Coconada is most convenient to the shippers.

3 I do not know what duty is collected on the most common articles of export from here, which are:—

To Francs, Bolton & Gingelly sued.

To

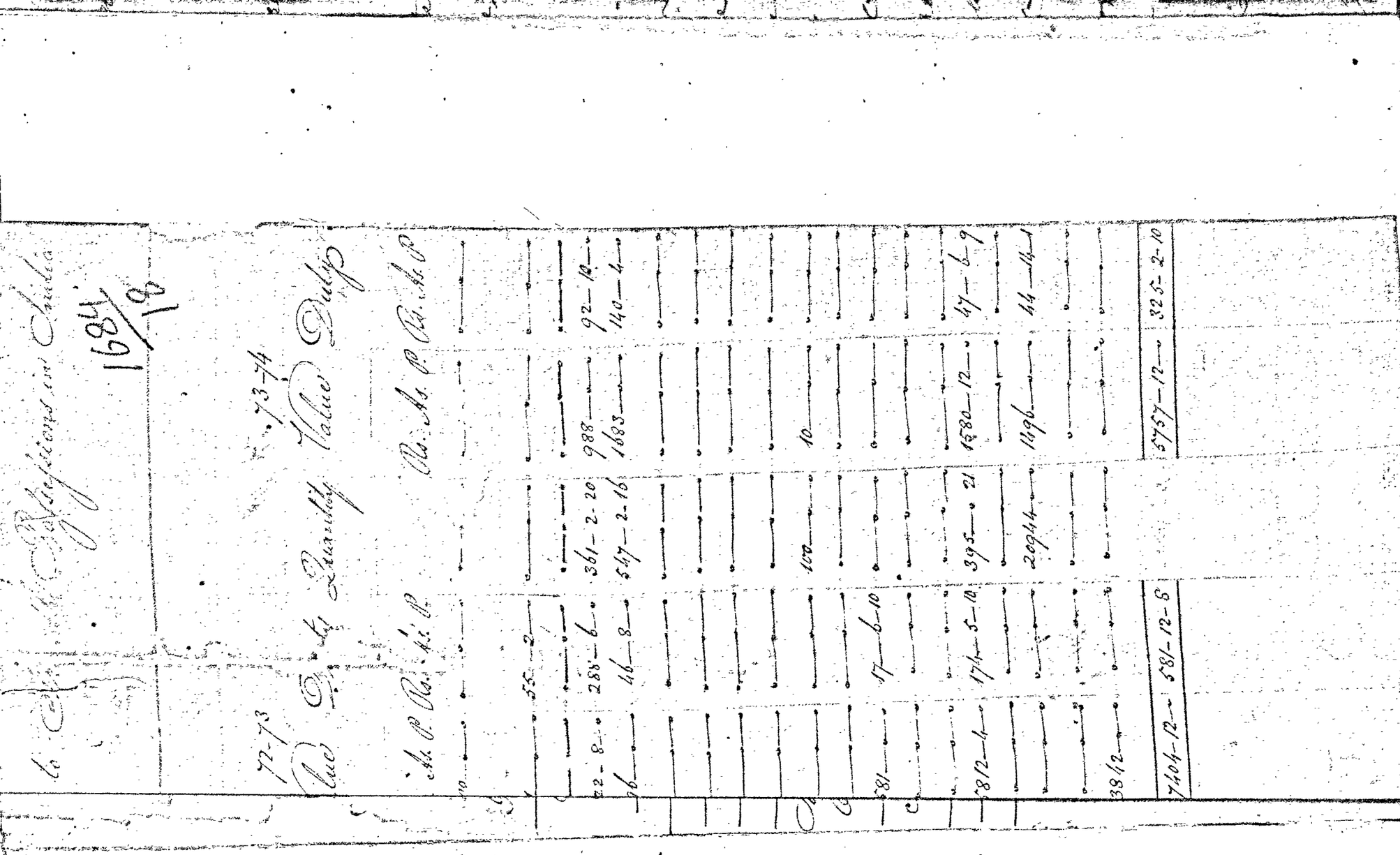
To French Possessions,—Cotton, Castor oil, Coriander & Chillies.

4. The Imports are very insignificant.

5. The trade here being so fluctuating it is not possible for me to say what effect an alteration in the duties would have.

I have the honor to be,
Sir.
Your most obedt Servt
G. Pillman
Collector.

1624/17



1876 Department
Rev. & Agr. No 1963.
The Collector
Kistna District
The Secretary
Board of Revenue
Madras.
Dated 4th October 1876
Rec'd Rev 4/57/76
No 1762
Encl 4

Reporting, regarding the representations to be made to the French Government in the interests of the District in the approaching negotiation for New Treaty of Commerce and Navigation between United Kingdom and France

Rec'd 13/10/76.

P. D. Govt. & all Cols
& Maritime &c
Oct. 76

9681

Enclosure in Letter
No 1762 dated 11th October 76
from the Collector Kistna
District to the Secretary
to the Board of Revenue
Madras.

5
Rev 4574/76
G.O. 15 No 1776 No 1624.
Judl Misc 6963/76

Statement of Articles
exported to Foreign
Possessions in India
during the last six years
ending 1875-76

Rep 13/10/76

1624/19

the District of Kistna during

1873-74

Duty	Quantity	Value	Duty
Rs A P		Rs A P	Rs A P
"	"	"	"
"	"	"	"
"	"	"	"
"	"	"	"
1454-1-11	12572-1-12	76434-2-4	2263-0-3
1454-1-11		76434-2-4	2263-0-3

Enclosure in letter
No 1762 dated 11th October 76
from the Collector Kistna
District to the Secretary
to the Board of Revenue
Madras.

5
Rev 4577/76
G.O. 15 Nov 76 No 1654
Jud Mis 6963/76

Statement of Articles
exported to French
Possessions in India
during the last six years
ending 1875-76

Rej 13/10/76.

the last six years ending 1875-76

	1874-75		1875-76		
	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Duty
		Rs A P		Rs A P	Rs A P
			1106-8	116260 —	"
	"	"	"	"	"
	"	"	"	"	"
	"	"	"	"	"
	"	"	"	"	"
	"	"	"	"	"
	"	"	"	"	"
	"	"	53[illegible]3-12-4	322462-4-7	9673-11-1
				468722-4-7	9673-11-1

S/Punnakottamaya
for Collector

Enclosures in Letter
No 1762 dated 4th October
1876 from the Collector
Kistna District to the
Secretary to the Board
of Revenue Madras

6
Ry 2-13/10/76
Ex. 257/76
Ex. 1684/76
Judl. No. 963/76

Statement of Articles
exported to France during
the last six years ending
1875-76.

1684/20

from France into the District

	1873-74					
	Duty	Quantity	Value	Duty		
	Rs.		Rs.	Rs.		
	11-4-	"	"	"		
	"	"	"	"		
	11-4-		"	"		

Enclosure in letter
No 1762 dated 4th October
1876 from the Collector
Kistna District to the
Secretary to the Board
of Revenue Madras.

Rc 457/76
G.O. 15th Nov 1876 No 1654

Judicial 0963/76

Statement of Articles
imported from France
during the last six years
ending 1875-76.

Rs 2 13/10/76

1874

Possessions in India in the Presidency

	1873-74			
	Duty	Quantity	Value	Duty
	Rs A P		Rs A P	Rs A P
	24-1-2			
		1650	175	
	—8—			
		1—1	3—8—	3—8—
	1—10—8	2—4	24——	2—10—8
			3000	
	26—3—10		3202—8—	1—2—8

Rev. 19/10/76.

1876

Enclosure in letter
No 1762 dated 4 October
1876 from the Collector
Madura District to the
Secretary to the Board
of Revenue Madras.

Rev 19/10/76
G.O. 15 Nov 2/12/76 No 1655.

Judl Min No 6963/76

Statement of Articles
imported from French
Possessions in India during
the last six years ending
1875-76

No. 2021.

1684/76 Collectorate Office,
Tellore,
20th July 1876.

From,
F. R. H. Sharp Esqre.
Acting Collector of Nellore,

To,
C. A. Galton Esqre.
Acting Secretary to the
Board of Revenue,
Madras.

Sir,

With reference to the Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, No. 1659 of the 29th ultimo, I have the honor to state that as the maritime traffic of this District is confined to the East and does not extend to Europe, and as there is no inland traffic direct with French territory, I am not in a position to offer any opinion on the expediency or otherwise of any changes in the present system of duties on French imports and exports.

O

No. 2021.

1684/12

Collectorate,
20th July 1876.

From,

F. R. H. Sharp Esqre.,
Acting Collector of Nellore,

To, B. A. Galton Esqre.,
Acting Secretary to the
Board of Revenue,
Madras.

Sir,

With reference to the Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, No. 1659 of the 29th ultimo, I have the honor to state that as the maritime traffic of this District is confined to the East and does not extend to Europe, and as there is no inlands traffic direct with French territory, I am not in a position to offer any opinion on the expediency or otherwise of any changes in the present system of duties on French imports and exports.

Enclosure in letter No 1762 dated 4 October 1876 from the Collector Nellore District to the Secretary to the Board of Revenue Madras.

Rev 8/1876

G.O. 15 Nov 1876 No 1652

Judl Misc No 6962/76

Statement of the Articles imported from French Possessions in India during the last six years ending 1875-76

Rev 2 - 13/10/76.

Enclosure in letter
No 1762 dated 4 October
1876 from the Collector
Kistna District to the
Secretary to the Board
of Revenue Madras.

Rev 4/1176
Ltr to Govt No 1632 -

Judl No 6962/76

Statement of Articles
imported from Foreign
Possessions in India during
the last six years ending
1875-76

Rs 2-13-0/76

No 2021.

1684/72

Collector's Office,
Bellary,
20th July 1876.

From,

F. R. F. Sharp Esqre.,
Acting Collector of Bellary,

To,

C. A. Galton Esqre.
Acting Secretary to the
Board of Revenue,
Madras.

Sir,

With reference to the Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, No 1659 of the 29th ultimo, I have the honor to state that as the returns traffic of this District is confined to the East and does not extend to Europe, and as there is no inlands traffic direct with French territory, I am not in a position to offer any opinion on the expediency or otherwise of any changes in the present system of duties on French imports and exports.

O.

O Heute die Honorable,

Sein

Jour moult Obeissant Serviteur

Pt Hallgn

Adelgr Candidat

No 3709. Tanjore Collector's Office
Tanjore 12th October 1876

1684/24

From
H. S. Thomas Esquire
Collector of Tanjore

To
H. E. Stokes Esquire
Secretary to the
Board of Revenue
Madras

Sir,

With reference to the Proceedings of the Board of Revenue dated 29th June 1876 No 1659, I have the honor to report that as there are no merchants in this district carrying on any trade with France, I have no remarks to offer.

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your most obedient servant

Compd
Kmr

H. Thomas.
Collector

From the Collector of Nellore. 15007
To the Ag Secretary to the Board of Revenue
No. 4571/76 Madras.
dated 20.7.76
Despd 21.7.76
Recd 24
24 No. 2021.

With reference to Board's Pro. No. 1659 dated 29 July, States that the maritime traffic of this Dt is confined to the East. It does not extend to Europe and there is no inland traffic direct with French territory; and that he is not in a position to offer any opinion on the subject.

Regd 26/7/76

P. Dbcut. file at Colly of Maritime etc.
13 Oct 76.
11825

No. 320 Madura Collector's Office
232 August 1876. 19½
From H. W. Bliss Esquire
1. Collector of Madura.
To
G. N. Patton Esquire
Secretary to the
Board of Revenue
Madras

Sir,

I have the honor to submit the report called for by the Board in their Proceedings No. 1659 dated 29th June 1876.

2. There are no local firms doing business with France and this District has therefore no direct trade with it. But with the French possessions in India, viz, Pondicherry and Karikal, a considerable trade is carried on a little trade - the exports trade of this District to the French ports is very trifling; and it may almost be said that none exists.

1876

G R No 7069

From

The Collector of Madura

Read 16-8-76

To

The Secretary to the Board of Revenue

Received 5/9 October 1876

Read 14

No 3709

Memorandum

Reporting that as there are no Merchants carrying on any trade with France he has no remarks to offer on the Commercial Treaties and Conventions between France and Great Britain.

P. Dept. & all Cos
Maritime &c
Oct. 26.

Read 17-10-76 5 Pkt
to 17

years in 1871-72 alone, Rs 153½ worth of articles were exported to Pondicherry paying export customs duty of Rs 3-6-4 in all. The articles consisted of Sugar candy, dried grapes, dried ginger, Rosewater and methee seeds. The Sea Customs Deputy Collector thinks that these articles were goods belonging to crews or passengers and not merchandise.

3. In the absence of the Import Tariff in force in the Indian French ports I am not able to say whether the want of export trade is in any way attributable to heavy duties demanded in them, and whether any reduction or abolition of them will tend to materially increase it.

4. The import trade from French ports to the ports of Madura appears to be pretty extensive. The marginal statement shews its

Year	Value	Duty
1870-71	5927-14-—	104-10-—
1871-72	79188-3-—	56-15-2
1872-73	883-4-—	16-11-3
1873-74	7146-1-4	14-14-1
1874-75	24180-—-—	43-7-—

value and the duty levied here in the five years ending 1874-75. The French ports from which these imports were made were Karikal and Pondicherry, more especially the former. The total value of the imports in the five years was Rs 117255-6-4 and the total amount of duty collected Rs 236-9-6. The two principal articles of import were "rice in husk" and "rice not in husk" which are free. Their value was more than 7/8 of the total. Other imported articles paid in all only Rs 236-9-6 duty and were not of kinds the trade in which would be likely to increase if they were exempted from duty.

5. Under these circumstances it does not appear to me that it is necessary to make any new arrangements with the French Government as far as the trade between this District and the French possessions in

in India is concerned.

6. The figures adopted in this letter are taken from the Sea Customs Returns of the several years and in the case of the years 1870-71, 1871-72, and 1874-75 do not tally with those given in the Statement received with the Board's Proceedings under reference.

The marginal statement shews the variations. I am unable to explain them.

Year.	Board's Statement	Sea Customs Office Returns
1870-71 -	5520 -	5927
1871-72 -	81747 -	79168
1874-75 -	25185 -	24180

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your most obedient Servant

P. Davidson
Asst.

Asst. Acting Collector.

No. 483. 1884 Camp Vasudevanellur Tinnevelly district 21 1876.

28

in India is concerned.

6. The figures adopted in this letter.

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P. Asst. Collr

Maritime Dt

Cocanada

Revd 1/9/76

Depart

Proddy No 15851

The Asst Collr

Y Madura

Rev 457/76

The Secty

to the Bd of Revue

Madras

Dated 23 Augt 76

Rec'd 28 Augt

Submitting the

report called for

by the Board in

their Proc. of

the 29th June 1876

No 1659 - Order

Dy 29/8/76

Camp Vasudevanellur
Tinnevelly district
8th August 1876.

No 483

From

A. J. Stuart Esqre
Ag. Collector

To

C. A. Galton Esqre
Ag. Secretary to the Board of Revenue
Madras.

Sir,

With reference to Board's proceedings No 1659 dated 29th June 1876 I have the honor to report that the trade of this district with France is not great - the only import of any importance at all is Claret of which are consumed 5 to 6000 Rupees worth in each of the years 1873-4 and 1874-5 - The exports are more important, but fluctuating -

In 1873-4 were exported

Cotton wool valued at Rs 89,998
Jaggary 92,246

In 1874-5 these figures were

Cotton wool valued at Rs 18,996
Jaggary 48,252

The Jaggary is recorded as exported to French possessions in India, but is believed to have been intended for

eventual transmission to France:

2. The only advantage this district could wish for in a new treaty would be Reduction of duty on Cotton and on Saggary, if there be any such duty on Entry into France. But nothing could be offered in return except a Reduction of the duty on Claret which would be of trifling value to France and no great loss to our revenues.

3. No doubt what would benefit us most, in general, would be a Reduction of any duty there may be on Raw material entering France, and especially on Cotton wool and Jingelly, Cocoanut and other oil products as well as Raw Sugar, and if any Concession could be got on these points, it would be well worth the Surrender of the duty on French wines — The more so as American Cotton is driving Indian Cotton out of the English market and our best chance is the Foreign market for Indian Cotton,

where, I believe, the demand is increasing. Such a surrender would give French wines an advantage over German wine, and might some day lead to a Concession from Germany in favor of Indian Raw material to Counterbalance a Reduction of duty on German wines.

4. The loss of Custom duties on Wines might be made up to the Indian Government through increased demand for Cotton and other Raw produce and the Consequent flow to cultivation — It would certainly benefit the Ryots to an extent more than Equivalent to the loss of Revenue, if Raw material is admitted more cheaply into France than hitherto — But it is of Course a question whether the Government can afford to give up the duties on French wines for such a prospect.

5. The merchants at Tuticorin have been Consulted on the Subject but, dealing as they do on behalf of others only as Agents, none of them

are able to make any suggestion.
My own opinion is that supposing there
are duties on Indian raw Material
entering the different Countries of
Europe, it would be good Indian policy
to try to get rid of them or get them
reduced by giving up the duties on
foreign Wines imported into this Country.

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your most Obedt Sert.
Edward
Collector.

Custom House

Madras
Dated 8th
Recd 9th } August 1876
Recd 12
Rev 457/76
No. 483.
Enclosure none
1218 Ans
Submitting report
called for in Board's Proceedings
No 1659 dated 29th June 1876
regarding the new treaty of
commerce and navigation
between United Kingdom and
France

Rep 21/8/76.

1876 GAN 5483

From. The Ag Collector
Tinnevelly

To The Secretary to the
Board of Revenue
Madras

Rec'd 9th August 1876 No 483

Dated 8th August 1876

Sir,

With reference to your Memo-
randum No 1659 dated 29th June 1876
on the subject of the new treaty of
commerce between United Kingdom and France
I have the honor to report as follows
under the heads mentioned in the
memorandum.

1st Heads. Articles of French manufacture
imported into this district.

Articles of French manufacture are not imported
into this district.

2nd Heads. Articles of French manufacture
exported from this district.

Articles of French manufacture are not exported
from this district.

3rd Heads. Articles of French manufacture
consumed in this district.

Articles of French manufacture are not consumed
in this district.

4th Heads. Articles of French manufacture
made in this district.

Articles of French manufacture are not made
in this district.

5th Heads. Articles of French manufacture
which are likely to be affected by the
proposed alterations in the duty in
Indian or exports or imports of any
article of Commerce between the two
Countries in which it is ancillary to
the trade.

I have the honor to report that
the proposed alterations in the duties
will not affect the trade in any
articles

Collector's Office
Tinnevelly
8th August 1876.

P. Robertson Hall Collr
& Magistrate
Aug 8/76.

2021

articles and Piece goods be reduced there is likely to be an increase of trade in respect of them but whether material or not it is impossible for me to say. Regarding exports, the export tariff now in use comprehends as few articles as possible. With regard to one of them - rice - no duty is levied under the orders of Government of 10th September 1875 - No. 1354 and the other, Cotton, being regarded as monopolies of India it is undesirable to reduce the present rate of duty on them.

2. I am of opinion that by the last Tariff Act Customs duties have been with a view to assist trade as much reduced as is Compatible

Compatible with the financial condition of the Country. 1684/73

I have &c.

(Signed) J. Thomson

Ag Head Assistant Collector

(True Copy)

J H Lane

Collector

C.O.D.

SOUTH ARCOT.

COLLECTOR'S OFFICE,
Cuddalore
19th August 1876.

No. 380.

16 84/34

From

J. H. Garstin Esquire

Collector of South Arcot.

To

C. A. Galton Esquire

Ag. Secretary to the Board of Revenue

Madras.

Sir,

In reply to the Board's Proceedings of the 29th June Last — No. 1609, I have the honor to state that in the Commercial Treaties between France and Great Britain I can see no allusion made to either of the 2 great products of this District which, I believe, find their way to France, viz Pondicherry, viz Groundnut oil and indigo. These articles, I have been informed, are imported into England free, whether

whether they are worn out to France (Pondicherry), which I would advocate their free admission there if any duty is levied on the return

2. As regards the export trade from this District to Pondicherry and Karikal, that by sea is insignificant while the revenue realized by the export duties on Specie and Bullion by land is so small that however the this District is concerned these duties might be abolished without causing any serious loss of revenue. Whether the export duty on indigo so exported could be given up is a much more serious question. I should think it would very much stimulate its production and by increasing the export trade add immensely to the wealth of this District and perhaps to that of many other parts of India where Indigo is grown, but I do not feel myself justified in the absence of facts and statistics in saying more.

3. The chief articles imported here by land from French Possessions in India are Brandy, wines, piece goods, Cocoanuts and metals. I see no reason for reducing the import duties on any of these articles except wines and regarding them I consider that the reduction of the import duty would considerably

whether they are warranted to France (because they, but I would calculate their fair admission there if any duty is levied on them.

2. In regard to the export trade from this District to Pondicherry and Karikal, that by sea is insignificant, while the revenue realized by the export duties on Specie and Coin exported by Land is so small that I am sure the this District is concerned these duties might be abolished without any very serious loss of revenue. Whether the export duty on indigo so exported could be given up is a much more serious question. To abolish it altogether would very much stimulate

stimulate its production and by increasing the export trade additionally to the wealth of this District and perhaps to that of many other parts of India where Indigo is grown, but I do not feel myself justified in the absence of facts and statistics in my power more.

3. The chief articles imported here by land from French Possessions in India are Brandy, wines, piece goods, Cornmis and metals. I see reason for reducing the import duties on any of these articles except wines and regarding them I consider that the reduction of the import duty would probably

probably materially in-
=crease the trade in that ar-
=ticle between France and
India. There is no direct
trade between France
and South East ports.
I enclose a copy of a Re-
=port from the Head Ass.
=istant Collector who thinks
the reduction of the import
duties on piece goods and
brass vessels would increase
the trade but whether ma-
=terially or not he is not pre-
=pared to say.

No 57 dated 12th August 1876.

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your Most obedient Servant

H H Smith
Collector

1684/37

South Canara Collector's Office,

No. 1899. Mangalore 4th October 1876.

From

L. McC. Robertson Esquire

Collector of South Canara.

To

R. S. Stokes Esquire

Secretary to the Board &c.

Madras.

Sir,

In reference to the Board's Proceedings No. 1659 dated 29th June 1876 I have the honor to inform you that the chief articles of Indian Produce that is shipped from this Port to France, is Coffee; and of Imports from France, Wines.

I have consulted the local Lists, but can obtain no information as to whether the duty collected in France on Indian Produce is in any case higher than that levied in the United Kingdom.

If such is the case, a reduction of the Import duty on coffee in France and of the Indian Import duty on Wines, will undoubtedly increase the

1876

SOUTH ARCOT.

From

The Collector of

South Arcot.

To

Dated 15 Nov 1876

Rec'd 16th Nov 1876

Dep. Sec. to Govt.

Received

Enclosure

No.

Subject.

P. Asst. Collector

Cuddalore

Remittance of

the Trade but it will materially affect the revenue. None of the Firms consulted have any suggestions to make.

I have the honorable Sir, Your most obedt. Servt

Wm. Thomas Collector

Comptr

Calicut. Malabar Coast
23 August 1876.

1684/39

From

Messrs Prince Leslie & Co.
Calicut

To

William Logan Esq.
Collector of Malabar
Calicut

Sir,

We are in receipt of your two letters as per margin

No 1680 of 25/7/76
No 1864 of 21/8/76

We should have replied sooner to the former of these, but owing to the printer having been away & to Messrs Ferguson & Burnett having also been absent from Calicut, it was only yesterday we were able to discuss the subject upon which you have asked our opinions.

We should have been in a better position to express an opinion had we been in possession of the Documents referred to in Para 2 of Mr. Liston's letter of the 9th March last.

The only remarks we have to offer with regard to the trade in which we are engaged are,

1st That we do not think the quantity of produce exported from Malabar would be in any way increased by a reduction in the duties charged upon such produce upon its being imported into France.

2nd The only point upon which we have any

Received 1876
No 1684
The Collector of South Canara.
Mangalore

Dated 4th October 1876.
Dispd. -
Received -
No. 1899.

Enclosures No.
Subject. Duty collected in France on Indian Produce - Informing that the shipowners of Calicut are entitled to ship fruit with the Frontiers & collect drawback from France, & requesting that no information can be obtained from the Custom Houses as to whether the fruit was shipped in the United Kingdom

any suggestion to make, is: that an endeavour should be made to obtain the abolition of the Surcharge at present imposed upon produce imported indirectly into France. For instance if Pepper or Coffee is shipped from Malabar to Marseilles direct. they are liable to less duty by about 2½ fcs per 50 Kilos, than if shipped by P & O Steamer to Southampton & thence reshipped to Havre or Bordeaux, to which places direct shipment is impossible. This Surcharge upon reshipment is, in our opinion, unfair to the Merchants here and to all those residing in French Ports other than such as enjoy direct Steam Communication with India.

Before concluding we Messrs Leslie & Co. think it not out of place to call your attention to the fact that the opening of the Suez Canal has already inflicted considerable injury upon the trade of India with England & is being felt severely in the London Market, that port being no longer a storehouse for the Mediterranean ports & that we believe all British Merchants in India are suffering considerably from the competition of foreigners who settling in India in increasing numbers annually, — Carry on direct with their own Countries — the trade that used to pass through British

British hands.

1684/KD

We have &c
by Messrs Leslie & Co.

True Copy

W. Lucas
Collector

J.B.G

any suggestion to make, is, that an endeavour should be made to obtain the abolition of the Surcharge at present imposed upon produce imported indirectly into France. For instance if Pepper or Coffee is shipped from Malabar to Marseilles direct, they are liable to less duty by about 2½ fcs per 50 Kilos, than if shipped by P & O Steamer to Southampton & thence reshipped to Havre or Bordeaux, to which places direct shipment is impossible. The Surcharge upon reshipment is, in our opinion, unfair to the Merchants here and to all those residing in French Ports other than such as enjoy direct Steam Communication with India.

Before Concluding we Pierce Leslie & Co, think it not out of place to call your attention to the fact that the opening of the Suez Canal has already inflicted considerable injury upon the trade of India with England & is being felt severely in the London Market, that port being no longer a Storehouse for the Mediterranean ports & that we believe all British Merchants in India are suffering considerably from the Competition of foreigners who settling in India in increasing numbers annually, — Carry on direct with their own Countries — the trade that used to pass through

British

British Lands.

1684/40

We have &c
for Pierce Leslie & Co.

True Copy

W. Lee Logan
Collector

P.L.C.

1684/61

We would point to the fact that Shipments from the Coast, of produce made by the regular Steamers generally have to bear the Surtaxe d'Entrepôt when landed in France, as the Steamers often touch in other French ports landing and taking in goods. This is principally the case with Shipments by the P.O or B.I.S.N. Co Steamers. It would facilitate business if a certificate of origin, issued by the Custom houses in port of Shipments would be enough to do away with the very obnoxious Surtaxe d'Entrepôt in France which at present is almost always Collected on produce shipped by the regular Steamer lines, if trading at other but French ports

Cochin
1-8-76

I/c Volkart Brothers

"True Copy"

Collector

I/c

a letter from the Collector of Customs to Government dated 15th October 1875

Copy of letter from Resident Cochin to the Secretary to Government dated 1st December 1875

1684/42

So the purpose of developing trade with France it is essentialy necessary that the "Sortáge d'entrepôt" on the Indian produces should be entirely abolished. The French Govt demands it on all goods per Steamers touching any other but French Ports, on their way to France, and I know from experience that in Havre, where Steamers do not so direct the following deduction in the name of "Sortáge d'entrepôt" will have to be paid.

On Coffee 2 francs 5 per 100 Kilos
Oil & Wood —"— 3 "— do —
Coir yarn —"— 5 "— do — 8 4/5
Pepper —"— 10 1/2 "— do —

besides Droit de Statique @ 10 francs & 1/2 pack-ages and Droit de Douane of 1/2 on samples, which all are great drawback for the increase of trade. At present it is not possible to ship any goods above described by British India & P & O Steamers, unless Vessels are chartered to load direct for Havre &c and all orders therefore for small parcels should remain unexecuted

Cochin 3 August 1876.

Sd/ P. Duncan

"True Copy"

Collector

Enclosure in Collector's Despatch
Dated 3rd August 1876

Letter from Messrs. Volkart Bros. Cochin 2nd August 1876 on the subject of restrictions on trade with France.

Messrs. Volkart Bros. Cochin 2nd August 1876

Sir,

We have the honor to address you a letter from the Collector of Customs dated 1st instant, and to request that you will be good enough to favor us with your views on the subject.

We have &c
Sd/ Volkart Bros.

Cochin Malabar Coast
24th August 1876.

1684/43

W. Logan Esqre,
Collector of Malabar

Sir,

We have the honor to forward herewith the views of two firms in this place (one European and the other Native) which were all we could obtain on the points adverted to in the Board's Proceedings No 1659 of 29th June, forwarded with your letter of 26th ultimo, with which we may mention we entirely concur.

Apologizing for the delay in furnishing you with the above-

We have &c
Sd Aspinwall & Co

(True copy)
W. Logan
Collector

Enc

In a letter from the Collector to the Secretary to the Board of Revenue Madras dated 6th Oct. 1876 at No. 268

Subscribers Opinion

Prices of rice at Cochin on the subject of reduction of land assessment

Prd. & R. 9th Oct 1876
No 1684

1684/44

Malabar Collector's Office
Cutchent, 4th October 1876.

No. 268

From,

W. Logan, Esqre.,
Collector of Malabar;

To,

H. E. Stokes, Esqre.,
Offg. Secretary to the Board of Revenue
Madras.

Sir,

In reply to Board's Proceedings, No. 1659, dated 29th June last and Miscellaneous No. 6765 dated 9th August last, which only reached me on 26th July and 16th August respectively, I have the honor to enclose copies of the Communications received by me from several local firms on the subject of restrictions on trade with France.

2. You will observe that the merchants chiefly complain of what

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Letter from the Collector of Malabar to the Secretary to the Board of Revenue Madras No. 268 dated 4th Octr 1876

Copy of letter from Messrs Logan & Co. on the subject of trade with France.

Received 16th March 1877

Read 16th March 1877

1684/1876

Malabar Collector's Office
Cutcherry, 4th October 1876.

No. 268

From,

W. Logan, Esqre.,
Collector of Malabar;

To,

H. E. Stokes, Esqre.,
Offg. Secretary to the Board of Revenue.
Madras.

Sir,

In reply to Board's Proceedings, No. 1659, dated 29th June last and Miscellaneous No. 6765 dated 9th August last, which only reached me on 26th July and 16th August respectively, I have the honor to enclose copies of the Communications received by me from several local firms on the subject of restrictions on trade with France.

2. You will observe that the merchants chiefly complain of what

To a Letter from the Collector of Customs to the Secretary to the Board of Revenue Madras No. 268 dated 4th Oct 1876

Copy of Letter from Messrs Arbuthnot & Co. to the Collector of Customs, dated 2nd Oct 1876.

is called the "Surtaxe d' entrepôt" levied at various rates on different articles imported into France indirectly. There is no direct regular Steam communication between this District and France, and produce has therefore to be first shipped to Southampton or other ports by the regular Steamer lines and thence re-exported to France. When this is done a "Surtaxe d' entrepôt" varying apparently from 3 francs and 5 francs per 100 Kilos of "oil and horns" and "coffee" respectively up to 40 francs per 100 Kilos of "Pepper" has to be paid. This tax is almost prohibitive of trade in the case of pepper, unless direct freight can be obtained, and is a heavy tax on coffee, and as these two products are the chief exports of this District, it would be a great advantage to have it abolished.

3. Messrs Hinde & Co of Tellicherry have not as yet favored me with the views of the merchants at that port, but from information I have recently received I understand that this "Surtaxe d' entrepôt" is the only impost to which the merchants there object.

4. As regards Land Customs, I observe that Mahe is chiefly used as a sort of bonded warehouse for goods destined for consumption in British Territories, and it is exceedingly difficult to prevent smuggling, because of the extended frontier line. It is true that the smuggling is of a petty nature, but it

would be any advantage if the Land Customs Establishment could be abolished altogether; and this might be done if the French Authorities would agree to levy Customs duties on imports and exports by sea, similar to the British Indian Tariff Rates and remit half of the net proceeds to our Government. The only difficulty would be as regards Arms and Ammunition, Opium and other articles the sale of which is regulated in British India, and as regards these I see no reason why some arrangement similar to that in force for Salt required for the French Settlements should not be made with respect to Opium or any other article,

the price of which is by our fiscal regulations unnaturally enhanced — As regards Arms and Ammunition, the certificate of the Chef de Service for export by sea or land into French territory from British should be of the same force as that of a District Magistrate with respect to transport thereof within British dominions alone. Such an arrangement would have the effect of giving our Government more control than it at present has over the trade in special articles like Opium, Arms &c while the gain as respects reduction of Establishment &c would be very great. It would be difficult of course to foretell the financial charges such

would be any advantage if the Land Customs Establishment could be abolished altogether; and this might be done if the French Authorities would agree to levy Customs duties on imports and exports by sea, similar to the British Indian Tariff Rates and remit half of the net proceeds to our Government. The only difficulty would be as regards Arms and Ammunition, Opium and other articles the sale of which is regulated in British India, and as regards these I see no reason why some arrangement similar to that in force for Salt required for the French Settlements should not be made with respect to Opium or any other article,

the price of which is by our fiscal regulations unnaturally enhanced — As regards Arms and Ammunition, the certificate of the Chef de Service for export by sea or land into French territory from British should be of the same force as that of a District Magistrate with respect to transport thereof within British dominions alone. Such an arrangement would have the effect of giving our Government more control than it at present has over the trade in special articles like Opium, Arms &c while the gain as respects reduction of Establishment &c would be very great. It would be difficult of course to foretell the financial charges such

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an alteration from the make, but I annex a statement showing the Import and Export duty collected at the Land Customs Stations in the last ten years, one-fourth (say) of which (other things being equal) may fairly be taken as a moderate estimate of our share of the net profit which would be paid in by the French Government under the contemplated arrangement, while the whole of the charges at present incurred would be saved.

Year	Duty collected — Imports	Exports	Establishment charges — Local	Police	Buildings and Improvements	Total
1866-67	4234	751	4965	312	2910	54	53	3309
67-68	5126	764	5890	312	2826	54	96	3288
68-69	7778	342	8120	312	2826	54	28	3220
69-70	15,391	451	15,842	312	2826	54	30	3222
70-71	9655	678	10,333	312	2826	54	77	3269
71-72	5645	282	5927	312	2826	54	75	3267
72-73	11,383	243	11,626	312	2826	58	38	3234
73-74	13,932	1170	15,102	681	3006	31	40	3758
74-75	5790	324	6114	1044	3006	45	220	4337
75-76	1370	126	1496	1050	3030	74	54	4208
							137	3507
							643	3517
							677	3527

3. I anticipate that the receipts in future will not reach the average obtained in the last 10 years, because the French firm which imported and exported most largely has failed and because French firms now find it to their advantage to have their places of business in Tellicherry—

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient Servant
W. Logan
Collector—

Eng

Telleherry 10th Oct 1874

1684/118

To
W. Logan, Esq.
Collector of Malabar,

From
Messrs Binde & Co
" Morris Leslie & Co
" Adams & Co
" Vallail Brothers.

Sir,

Messrs Binde & Co having submitted your letter of 26th July with the accompanying documents connected with the proposed new Commercial Treaty between Great Britain and France, it has been thought desirable to give our united views in our Communication, and pray leave now the honor to do so.

The duty now levied in France upon the principle Export from this Coast, namely Co 1800 is heavy, and if moved downwards tend to increase the trade in this Article, if it could be reduced. At present it is about thirty per Cent of the value of

the

[illegible]

Received 11 Oct 1874
Read 12 Oct 1874
Recorded
Entered
Collector of Malabar

Read the accompanying letter from the Secretary to the Board of Customs, Madras.

Entered No. 2688
Read No. 2688

Enclosures 4.17

Respectfully with reference to Govt Res. No. 1659 Dated 2nd June last, in the subject of Mettupalayam and Coimbatore Trade

Pierce
Collector

Telliche[illegible] 10th Oct 1874

1589/78

W. Logan, Esq.
Collectn. of the Calcutta

From

Messrs Meade & Co
" Scrie Leslie & Co
" Oates & Co
" Vachail Brothers.

Sir,

Messrs Meade & Co having submitted your letter of 26th July with the accompanying documents connected with the proposed new Commercial Treaty between Great Britain and France, it has been thought desirable to give our united views in our Communication, and you have now the honor to do so.

The duty now levied in France upon the principle Export from this Coast, namely Cotton is heavy, and it seemed doubtless tend to increase the trade in this article if it could be reduced. At present it is about thirty per cent of the value of

the

Rec'd 10th Nov 1874
Read 11th Dec
Entered
Sent to Collector of Madras

Rec'd from Board of Customs, Salt & Opium
Dated 14th October 1874
Rec'd 19th
No. 2698

Enclosures 4 in
Returned with reference
to 1589 dated 14th Nov 1874
Last in the Despatch of
Particulars as to said
Trade from
Date

No. 16901 11 Septr

Recd 4571/76

The Collector of Malabar,

To

The Ag. Secretary to the Board of Revenue, Madras

Dated 4th October 1876

Recd 9th October 1876

No. 268

Reporting with reference to B.P. Rev. No. 1659 dated 19 June last, on the subject of restrictions on trade with France

1684

Tellicherry 10th Oct 1876.

1684/118

To

W. Logan, Esq.

Collector of Malabar.

From

Messrs Hinde & Co
" Peirce Leslie & Co
" Aletur & Co
" Volkart Brothers.

Sir,

Messrs Hinde & Co having submitted your letter of 26th July with accompanying documents connected with the proposed new Commercial Treaty between Great Britain and France, it has been thought desirable to give our united views in one Communication, and we have now the honor to do so.

The duty now levied in France upon the principal Export from this Coast, namely Coffee is heavy, and it would doubtless tend to increase the trade in this article if it could be reduced. At present it is about thirty per cent of the value of

the

the imported Article.

But we would particularly point out the great desirability of abolishing the Extra duty or "Surtaxe d'Entrepot" now levied on all produce shipped to France indirectly. It stands greatly in the way of trade and especially from this Coast, as Vessels going direct to France are not numerous and a great part of our produce has of necessity to be shipped by way of European ports foreign to France, transhipment taking place at such ports. Taken for instance, a shipment of Coffee or Pepper is made by a Steamer of the P.O. Company, which undertakes to forward the goods to France, the latter are usually transhipped in England, and it thus happens that the goods although shipped direct to French purchasers, and

the Steamer Company having granted a direct or "through" Bill of Lading, two francs per 50 Kilos (about 1 Cwt.) has to be paid simply because the goods were transhipped at a port foreign to France.

But not only is this "Surtaxe d'Entrepot" levied on goods which have been transhipped at a European port foreign to France, it is also levied on goods shipped by vessels going from this Country to France provided they touch before reaching France at a port foreign to France, and there take in Cargo similar to that they have on board.

The following Example will tend to illustrate this fully. A Steamer leaves this Coast with a Cargo of Coffee of which three fourths are for Marseilles, the rest for Trieste and Venice. The

Steamer

the imported article.

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Steamer

Steamer probably goes direct to the Austrian and Italian ports to discharge the Cargo destined for those ports, they being the nearest and as it were on the road to Marseilles. Should the Steamer take in at either Venice or Spirale one single bag of Coffee for Marseilles, then the Surtaxe d'Entrepôt will be levied on the whole of the Cargo upon its arrival at Marseilles.

The opening of the Suez Canal has greatly altered the former Condition of things. When Shipment Could only be made by the Cape, English ports formed the usual Entrepots for the distribution over Europe of Indian produce, and it might then be Considered by France desirable to impose the Surtaxe on goods imported by way of ports foreign to France to induce direct importation; but now the Suez Canal brings

(Rail)

the European markets nearer to India than England and Shipments naturally seek the shortest road to them. The trade however is Carried on by lines of Steamers which undertake to forward goods to various places in Conjunction with other Companies, who Convey the produce to its destination and transhipment is therefore of very frequent occurrence. Many Steamers also Carry goods for intermediate port. There is no doubt that the direct business between France and India has much increased of late and the removal of hindrances such as the Octroi, would, we should think, be of more advantage than the revenue derived from the Surtaxe.

As it appears very clear that this Surtaxe d'Entrepôt when applied in Lieu of the above

Cases

Cases defeats to a Certain Extent its object, as instead of fostering direct trade, it partakes partakes as a hindrance to it; pro vided therefore Strongly recommend the abolition of this "Droit d'Entrepôt" or shewed its total abolition not be practicable pro vided suggest, that all goods accompanied by a Certificat d' Origine (Certificate of Origin) signed by the Superintendent of Sea Customs And shewing that the goods were entered at this Office as shipped for France, shewed be relieved from the Charge.

It will be observed that the trade with France from the Malabar Coast is about one half of the whole trade of the Madras Presidency, and it is well known that the Cotton of Tuticorin, Coynd and the other districts near this Coast are in high favor in France,

so

28 July 1876.

(6884/51)

so it is especially desirable that they trade should be encouraged, for it would doubtless form an important means of developing the Cotton industry in these and other districts in India suitable for its production.

It would have been useful if we could have had before us particulars of the existing treaty of Commerce in so far at least as such articles of produce as from this Coast are concerned.

We have the honor &c.

Sd/ Binder & Co

h.p. Volkart Brothers

Sd/ A. J. Arbuthnot

h.p. Callow & Co

Sd/ A. Nant.

True Copy forwarded in Continuation of this Office Letter No 268 dated 4th Oct. 1876.

Collector

Malabar Coast Office
Calicut
13th Oct 1876

To

The Secy to the Govt of Fort St. George
Madras

Rec'd 1st Nov. 1776

Rec'd 15th Nov. 1776

Ans. 16th Nov. 1776

Canada

No 1712

From

The Collector of Customs

Halifax

To,

The Secretary to the

Board of Customs

London

No 12

Rec'd 15th Nov. 1776

Dated 13th Oct. 1776.

Answ. 16

Encl. nil

Copy of Letter from

Messrs Grinds & Co & others

firms on the subject

of restrictions on the

trade with France,

forwarded in Con-

tinuation of Letter No

268 of 4 Aug. 1776

Ans. Rec'd 23/10/76.

P. Hamb. Hall Carg.

of Provisions &c

Oct. 176.

Halifax 28th Aug. 1776

No. 268

Sir

I have the honor to inclose for your information a Copy of a Letter from the Collector of the Customs at this Port, with the Copy of a Letter from Messrs Grinds & Co. & others Merchants of London, on the subject of restrictions on the Trade with France, and to acquaint you that I have transmitted Copies of the same to the Lords Commissioners of the Treasury, and the Commissioners of the Customs in America.

I am Sir

Your most humble Servant

Fra. Legge

The Honble Captain Hamilton

Commander of His Majesty's Ship

Rainbow at Halifax

Sir

We the Merchants Traders

& Manufacturers of the City of London

Request leave to represent to you the

great Injury we shall sustain in the Sale

of our Manufactures & Commodities

exported to Canada, Nova Scotia & the

Islands of St John & Cape Breton, if

the Exportation of Goods from Great Britain

to France should be prohibited, as we

apprehend it will be impossible for us

to dispose of the Goods we have already

purchased for the Canada Trade, or

to make any Remittances for the Debts

due to us in that Country, if the

Exportation of Goods to France should

be prohibited, as the Returns from

Canada are usually made in Bills of

Exchange upon Merchants in London

who have Correspondents in France,

and who receive Remittances from

thence in Bills upon Paris, which

Bills are purchased by the Canada

Merchants for the Payment of their

Debts in London.

We therefore hope you will take

the Premises into your Consideration,

and grant us such Relief therein as

you shall think proper.

We are Sir

Your most humble Servants

Grinds & Co & others

London 13th Oct. 1776

To

The Honble Commissioners

of His Majesty's Customs

... Indian Government ... duty
on Claret and Burgundy which
is much too high. The duty on
Beer and Ale [illegible] per
Gallon [illegible] the duty on Claret
and Burgundy is [illegible] Rupees per
Gallon. It is acknowledged by
all medical men that Beer
in the [illegible]
effects [illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible] complaints so prevalently
[illegible] in India. On the other
hand Claret has been found
the most suitable drink in
this Climate as well as the
most beneficial to the health
of Europeans. We are aware that
the Indian Government is
anxious to put down drunkenness the
curse of India and we think
a larger consumption of claret will

For [illegible] of the trade with France [illegible] in [illegible] 26876 [illegible] 22/10/16

... he [illegible] to [illegible]
[illegible] in case of good sound
Claret can be landed in Madras for
Rs fifty and a lamb [illegible] a duty of
Rs forty eight on this same appears
[illegible] to be out of proportion.
We submit also that a reduction
of duty on Brandy will be
conducive to improvement in the
health and temperate habits of
European Troops, as a cheaper
Brandy will prevent such mixture
of Chillie and common spirit being
sold as genuine and being any-
thing but sanitary. We know
that the interest of the Abkarry
Contractors have also to be considered
[illegible] but we submit that a
reduction in the Brandy [illegible]
affect seriously their sales as
their clients are chiefly the natives
who seldom resort to the European
stuff.

We

We should regret that the French Government should be induced to reduce considerably if not to remove altogether the duty on Coffee which the events of 1870 have enabled France to impose with a view to increase the resources of her Exchequer. Now that a few years of peace and finance have restored the Equilibrium of her Budget that duty has no more reason to stand and its removal will assuredly increase in a larger proportion the inter course between the two Countries.

We have &c
(Signed) Poulain Frères
Victor Deacon

(True Copy)
for
Chairman
Acting Collector of Customs

The Chamber of Commerce
Madras 4th August 1876

16th/6th

From
The Honorable P. Macfadyen
Chairman, Chamber of Commerce

To
P. J. Melville Esq
Collr of Sea Customs
Madras

Sir,

With reference to your letter &c enclosures of the 20th Ultimo, on the subject of the new Commercial and Navigation Treaty between France & the United Kingdom, I have the honor to state, on behalf of this Chamber, that in the interests of India it would be well to represent that the existing duties in France on Coffee, the produce of this Country, are so oppressive as certainly to check commerce in the Article; and they offer a strong inducement to smuggling across the Italian Frontier.

I have &c
(Sgd) P. Macfadyen
Chairman.

(True Copy)
for
Chairman
Acting Collector of Customs

Madras 21 July 1815.

1684/45

To
The Collector of Sea Customs
Madras.

Sir,

In reply to your Po. 1259 of the 20th instant we have the honor to state that Pepper is the only article of Indian Export to France that seems to suffer from the Import duties in that country. On Pepper the duty is so high that we believe France is principally supplied by smuggling across the Italian Frontier. We think therefore that France might with benefit to Sale of Indian, reduce the duty on this article.

I have &c
(Signed) Hodges Arbuthnot & Co.

(True Copy)
Hamilton
Sec. to Collr. of Customs

Sir

I have the honr to acknowledge
receipt of your letter of the 20th Inst
forwarding Copy of Bd. Proc. of 29th June
1876 (herewith returned) for my opinion
as to the Representations it will
be desirable to make in the interests
of the Indian Trade to the French
Government in connection with the
proposed Treaty.

In reply I have the honr
to state that it would be desirable
that a reduction or abolition of
the duty in France on Indian
or Exports or Imports of all
articles of Commerce between
the two Countries should gradually
be increased.

I have not before me
the Export & Import Tariffs
in force of the United Kingdom

[illegible] Duties and Claims
[illegible] Certificates
of Trade & Compliance shall
[illegible] apply to Collection
or Abolition of Duty

I have &c
Geo. S. Lent.

True Copy
Clements
Collector &c

1684 5/8
Custom House
Boston
1684
The
Right Honble
Lords Commissioners of His
Majesty's Treasury
&c &c &c
Sir Edward Hutton Esqr
Secretary Board of Revenue

Sir,

I have the honor to submit the following observations with reference to Boards Proceedings dated 29th June 1876 No. 159.

2. The Chamber of Commerce and the Principal Merchants generally noted, doing business with France have been consulted, and their replies are herewith forwarded.

3. I concur in the Recommendation made to the effect that the duties levied in France on Coffee should be reduced. The duty on Coffee is declared to be so high that France is

1684 Sept 26

To enable me
[illegible] exact
[illegible] as I can,
[illegible] the Country has now practically
[illegible] its Investments and the
Profit [illegible] if not abolished without efficacy.

4. The adoption of these suggestions
is likely to increase the Exports
of these articles to France.

5. As regards the duties levied in
India, it is recommended by Gov.
Pitt and Council that the Export duty
on Sugar and Rice should be
reduced as well as the Import
duty on Burgundy, Claret and
Brandies imported from France.

6. The principal articles of
Import from and Export to
France and the French Settlements
in India are stated on the
[illegible]

7. The duty on Sugar is

1684 Sept 26

[illegible] Export
[illegible] the
Export Duties
[illegible] of the exports of these
articles to France
Commerce during 1675-76 amounted to 208
Rupees.

8. A reduction of duty on these
articles might increase the
Exports.

9. I am not prepared to
Recommend any reduction in
the Export duty on Rice or the
Import duty on Wines as the
Export of Rice are small.

I have the honorable
&c
Your Honorable Servant
[illegible]
Ag Coll. Rea Customs

1684
Feb. 5th

Sir

I have the honor to refer the Lords Commissioners of the Treasury to the Letter of the Commissioners of the Customs of the 29th ult. and to the Reports of the Surveyor General of the Customs inwards and Comptroller of the Accounts of Petitions dated the 3d Inst. upon the Petition of Mr. Thomas Dawkins praying that the Duty of 8 Shillings per Gallon upon Arrack imported from the East Indies may be taken off, or reduced to a lesser Duty.

2. The Petitioner alledges that Arrack is a Liquor of the same nature with Brandy, and that the Duty upon Brandy imported from France is but 4 Shillings per Gallon, and that the Duty upon Arrack ought to be reduced to the same Rate.

3. The Commissioners of the Customs observe that the Duty upon Brandy imported from France is 4 Shillings per Gallon, and that upon Arrack imported from the East Indies 8 Shillings per Gallon, and that the Duty upon Arrack is the only Duty upon any Liquor imported from the East Indies, and that the Duty upon Brandy imported from France is but one of the several Duties upon Liquors imported from thence, and that the Duty upon Arrack is the highest Duty upon any Liquor imported from the East Indies, and that the Duty upon Brandy imported from France is but one of the lowest Duties upon Liquors imported from thence.

4. That the Duty upon Arrack is the highest Duty upon any Liquor imported from the East Indies, and that the Duty upon Brandy imported from France is but one of the lowest Duties upon Liquors imported from thence.

5. That the Duty upon Arrack is the highest Duty upon any Liquor imported from the East Indies, and that the Duty upon Brandy imported from France is but one of the lowest Duties upon Liquors imported from thence.

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11. That the Duty upon Arrack is the highest Duty upon any Liquor imported from the East Indies, and that the Duty upon Brandy imported from France is but one of the lowest Duties upon Liquors imported from thence.

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15. That the Duty upon Arrack is the highest Duty upon any Liquor imported from the East Indies, and that the Duty upon Brandy imported from France is but one of the lowest Duties upon Liquors imported from thence.

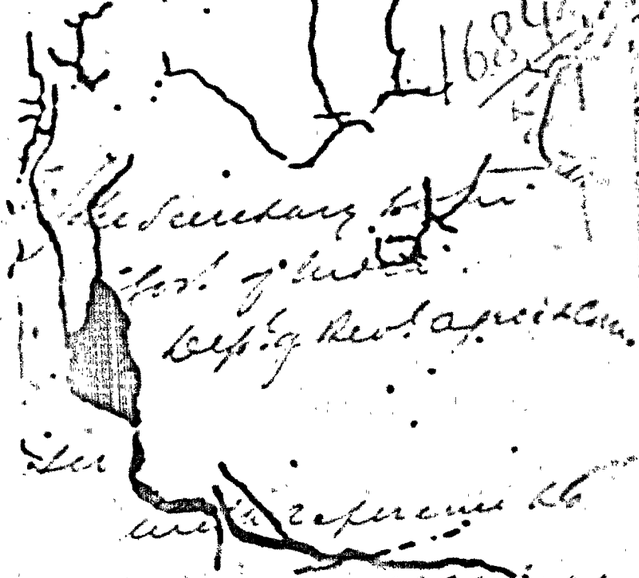
16. That the Duty upon Arrack is the highest Duty upon any Liquor imported from the East Indies, and that the Duty upon Brandy imported from France is but one of the lowest Duties upon Liquors imported from thence.

17. That the Duty upon Arrack is the highest Duty upon any Liquor imported from the East Indies, and that the Duty upon Brandy imported from France is but one of the lowest Duties upon Liquors imported from thence.

18. That the Duty upon Arrack is the highest Duty upon any Liquor imported from the East Indies, and that the Duty upon Brandy imported from France is but one of the lowest Duties upon Liquors imported from thence.

19. That the Duty upon Arrack is the highest Duty upon any Liquor imported from the East Indies, and that the Duty upon Brandy imported from France is but one of the lowest Duties upon Liquors imported from thence.

20. That the Duty upon Arrack is the highest Duty upon any Liquor imported from the East Indies, and that the Duty upon Brandy imported from France is but one of the lowest Duties upon Liquors imported from thence.



Secretary to the
Govt. of India
Dept.g Revenue.

Sir

I am directed to refer
you letter of 20 May
1796 No 214. regarding
suspicions entertained
in this Presidency
hereabouts in the interests
of India by French
Government with
approaching hostilities
between this Country
& France & to
request you will
communicate
proceedings of
Council in which it was
so taken up, in

of the officers concerned
in the Chamber of commerce
certain Mercantile Firms
here, the following have
been considered.

1. The high duty [illegible] on
French goods when exported
from this country

2. The "Surtaxe d'entrepot"
or duty levied on different
articles imported into
France. but not directly

3. The system under which
duty is charged on raw sugar
imported into France from
Foreign countries.

4. The heavy import duty
on France on coffee.—
Generally the reduction
of French duties on Indian
Commodities.

I am to suggest also the
desirability of proposing
a rectification of the frontier line, the British & French

6[illegible]

territories so intimately
associated, with facilities
for the smuggling of goods
& evasion of customs duty.

I am also recently to direct
attention to the hardship
which has been caused
to [illegible] merchants
of French nationality
by the operation of
the Indian Income Tax
Act in connection
with the transmission of
Capital under French
passports through British
territory. The sketch map
enclosed will show how
irregular the line is
at Pondicherry — the
French fort, and the
Indian are divided
by a ditch only
a few yards apart, have always
been a source of inconvenience
to cause to a settlement
of this point.

3/30

Proceedings of the Board of Revenue

Dated 30th October 1876 No 2694

Read the following letters

From The Collector of Vizagapatam dated 25th August 1876 No 2821

" Vizagapatam " 31st do " No 1541

" Godavery " 21st " " No 246

" Kistna " 4th Oct 1876 No 2962

" Nellore " 20th July 1876 No 2021

" South Arcot " 19th August 1876 No 380

" Tanjore " 12th Oct 1876 No 3709

" Madura " 23rd Aug 1876 No 320

" Tinnevelly " 8th do " No 2483

" South Canara " 4th Oct 1876 No 1599

" Malabar " 4th do " No 2688

" " " 13th do " "

" " Sea Customs Madras " 8th Aug 1876 No 1388

In the Board's Proceedings dated 29th June 1876 No 1659 the Collectors of the Maritime Districts were called upon with reference to L.O. dated 6th June 1876 No 756, to report after consulting such local Agents as do business with

of Chas 56 No 4 do 56

A

Statement showing the Quantity and Value of pepper exported to Foreign Ports during the last 3 years.

	1873-74		1874-75		1875-76	
	lbs	Rupees	lbs	Rupees	lbs	Rupees
France	48,15,372	5,99,912	27,38,274	3,80,061	31,20,042	4,72,149
Arabia	283,351	37,948	309,776	41706	166309	
United Kingdom	5,65,885	75,789	339,124	45649	3,01,324	12,110
Persia	1,14,292	15,306	2,548	340	1,19,268	17,685
Aden	30,244	4,051	98,525	13,775		
Trieste	6,878	921				
Egypt			82,216	11,011	77,866	10,122
All other Countries	149,522	20,025	173,993	23,633	32,5,613	
Total	59,65,544	7,53,952	37,44,464	5,17,596	17,19,322	

[illegible] Compiled upon the Surtax called the Surtaxe d'entrepôt levied at various rates on different articles imported into France indirectly. For instance if pepper or coffee is shipped to Marseilles direct, it is liable to the duty, but if shipped by Paid Steamer to Southampton and thence re-shipped to Havre or Bordeaux. It is the Merchants Consider, bears that Ports which do not enjoy direct Steam Communication with France and suggests that endeavour be made to obtain its abolition, or to exemption from it on production of certificate showing that the goods were originally shipped for France. It seems to be the practice for Steam Ships Companies running to English ports to grant through bills of lading to France

for [illegible] to be transhipped [illegible] to their destination the Surtaxe is charged in France. It is even levied on the whole cargo, if a vessel bound for a French port, touches anywhere else upon the voyage and takes in even the smallest quantity of goods of the same kind. Since the opening of the Suez Canal, shipments by steamers direct to French ports have increased but the steamers usually called at other ports in the Mediterranean do not escape the Surtaxe.

4. Messrs Meiklen and Co of Jaffna state that the Commercial interests of India suffer by the system pursued by the French Government in regard to duty charged on raw sugar imported into France from Foreign Countries.

special

Specified quantities of sugar
on which
have also been deprived of the Bri
Market, owing to the
of the British refining trade under
the system of bounties involved in
the way the duties are managed in France.
The duty is charged according to
the Color which is supposed to represent
the quantity of white sugar contained.
A draw back is also allowed on
the same principle or with reference
to the color when sugar is re-exported.
The effect of this is, that where import
duty is collected with reference to
the Color, the French merchant obtains
a larger draw back than the duty paid
and thus practically obtains a
bounty on his exports. For instance,
the French fabricant colors his
sugar

duty according to the Dutch standard.

North Sugar in 1875-76

Foreign Countries	Quantity Cwts.	Value Rs
United Kingdom	28,456	— 129,451
Ceylon	1056	— 4543 8
Arabia	296 1	— 21,43
France	—	—
United States	15,110	— 506
Other Countries	600	— 4358
	30,633	141,609

be considered to
yield 75 tons of white sugar
the refiner buys it
and pays import duty
accordingly, takes out
from the same store
of white, and exporting
it again receives a
draw back of duty on
that quantity (80 tons)

This enables the French refiner
to sell his sugar in the London market
below its cost price there, thus shut-
ting out the Indian sugars and beating
the English refiners out of the Market
This is a subject which has attracted
much attention and has, the Board
understand from the newspapers, formed
the subject of protracted negotiations

5

of January 1820 has been
in operation [illegible]
imported from [illegible]
Country, the United States
to the heavy charges upon
cent of the value
The Collector of Madras
and the Merchants of
Malabar suggest
that it should be
reduced if not
abolished.

[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
France	121,946	18,292
Spain	36,379	5,456
Turkey	10,552	4,376
Italy	4,838	2,904
Australia	4,882	207,623
other Countries	9,558	3,654,62
Total	187,594	15,96,968

6. No specific suggestions other than those above mentioned have been made in regard to the duties levied in France. It is generally proposed by the duties on Indian raw produce imported into France should be reduced to the level of those in force in the United Kingdom; but it would be hopeless to urge any such proposals

7.

[illegible] Regulations [illegible]
[illegible] or export to the opposite [illegible]
Viz. Coal and Iron are paid [illegible]
Madras suggest a reduction of duty
on Indigo and Dyes exported and Dyes
Claret and Burgundy imported. The
Collector of Madras recommends
the reduction of duty on Indigo, but
does not consider the other reductions
necessary. The Merchants of Vizagapatam
made the same recommendations as
regards duties on wines, but the
Board are not prepared to recommend
reduction in those duties which fall
on opulent classes in this Country.
8. The Board have not before them
the tariff now in force in France and
England, and are therefore unable
to make definite proposals, beyond
suggesting that endeavour should be made
to obtain reduction of French duties on

Indian

Extract from Bengal Revenue Letter to Fort St. George
the terms applicable to Trade
should also be made to apply to Bengal
Proceedings in India. The complaints
made by the Merchants of Malabar
as regards to "Surtaxe d'entrepôt"
should also be brought to the
notice of the Home Government
The Board do not think that the
question of the reduction of duty
on Indigo and Rice exported from
this Country needs be considered
at present

Transmitted

H Stokes

Actg Secretary

To

The Secretary to Government

Revenue Department

with Original Letters & their Enclosures

to be returned

Revenue 1876 Despatch

№ 4571

Proceedings of the

Board of Revenue

Encl. 1 in Despatch

Copy 30 " — 1

Page 31 — 0

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New Treaty of Commerce & Navigation

between the United Kingdom

& France — Submitting Correspon-

dence regarding representa-

tions which were made by French

Govt in the interests of India

in the approaching Negotiations for

Letter to Govt of India 15th Nov

№ 1684 -