M.R.O. 1—38,000—16-10-29.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Judicial **DEPARTMENT.**

G.O. No.	678	Press ~~Mis.~~
14-15		
Dated	4. 5. 1883	~~19~~ .

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Not to be folded or roughly handled

N.B.

No. 14. Read the following letter from JAMES SWAN, Esq., Colonial Secretary Colombo; to the Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George, dated Colombo, 17th April 1863, No. 9.

I am directed by His Excellency the Governor to transmit to you copy of a letter from Messrs. Fryer Schultze & Co., and copy of an Affidavit made by Captain DuVerge before Mr. D. E. Desaram, Justice of the Peace for the District of Colombo, accusing the Officer and crew of the British Schooner "Sphynx" of Piracy, and to request, with reference to Act No. 7 of the 17th February 1854, passed by the Government of India, that you will move the Honorable the Governor in Council to give directions to the proper authorities for the apprehension of the persons charged, in the event of the Schooner arriving at any of the Ports under the Presidency of Madras.

From Messrs. FRYER SCHULTZE, & Co.; to the Honorable the Colonial Secretary, dated Colombo, 13th April 1863.

We have the honor to acknowledge receipt of your letter of this date enclosing copy of a letter addressed by you to the Collector of Customs, directing him to telegraph about the "Sphynx" to the different Customs authorities in India.

We have now the honor to enclose Captain DuVerge's Affidavit sworn before the Police Magistrate of Colombo, charging the Officer and crew of the above vessel with Piracy, and we hope that His Excellency the Governor may be pleased to communicate with the Governments of India on the subject so that the Officer and crew may be apprehended in case they should land in any of the Indian Ports.

Louis Asbeyanaa DeBattier DuVerge presently at Colombo, maketh oath that he is the Master of the British Schooner "Sphynx," which owing to light and contrary winds arrived off the Port of Colombo on her passage from Mauritius to Cochin on the Malabar Coast on the night of the 7th of April instant. That the said vessel requiring fresh provisions, he, this Deponent, landed in a Canoe on the morning of the 8th day of April aforesaid, leaving directions with the Chief Officer of the said vessel to sail about off the Port until his return, and this Deponent saith that after having purchased the necessary provisions and while he was about to return to the said vessel, she had left the Port and proceeded to Sea against his expressed orders and has not yet returned. That this Deponent had as freight on board the said vessel specie in Gold amounting to about the sum of £3,700. Wherefore the said Deponent charges the Chief Officer, Eugene Purini, and the crew of the said vessel whose names are annexed with Piracy in having absconded with the said vessel and specie, and prays that such steps be taken for the apprehension of the said vessel and her Officer and crew as to this Court shall seem fit, proper and legal.

(Signed) L. DuVERGE.

Explained by

(Signed) W. D. SCHULTZE.

Sworn to before me this 13th day of April 1863.

(Signed) D. E. DESARAM,
Justice of the Peace.

Eugene Purini, 2nd Captain.
Victor Chiffoune, Maitré d'Equipage.
Elicio Hantin, Matelot et Cuisinier.
Jean Baptiste Marie, Matelot.
Jean Maria, Matelot.
Felix, Matelot.
Frayday, Maitré d'Hotel.
Nemours Turin, Pilotin.

(True Copies.)

(Signed) JAMES SWAN.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Judicial Department,
4th May 1863.

No. 15. ORDER THEREON, 4th May 1863, No. 678.

It is observed that a telegram received by the Collector of Customs at Madras from the Collector of Customs, Colombo, in the matter of the foregoing letter, has already been published in the Fort Saint George Gazette. The present papers will be communicated to the Master Attendant at Madras, in view to the necessary instructions being issued to the Master Attendants, &c., at the several Ports in this Presidency.

2. Copies will also be sent to the Magistrates of the several Maritime Districts.

(Signed) A. J. ARBUTHNOT,
Chief Secretary.

Exd. T. McMootry.

Order 4th May 1863 No. 678.
It is observed that a Telegram received by the Collector of Customs at Madras from the Collector of Customs, Colombo, in the matter of the foregoing letter, has already been published in the Fort St. George Gazette. The present papers will be communicated to the Master Attendant at Madras, in view to the necessary instructions being issued to the Master Attendants, at the several Ports in this Presidency.

Copies will also be sent to the Magistrates of the several Maritime Districts.

To the Master Attendant at Madras. } 30 despatches
" Collector of Customs —— }
" 12 Magistrates of — duplicates