

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Marine DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No.	<i>379</i>	Press
		<i>Mis.</i>
Dated	<i>23.9.</i>	1858

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Fort Saint George, Marine Consultation, 28th September 1858.

Mo. 6. From J. J. FRANKLIN, Esq., Superintendent of Marine ; to T. PYCROFT, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George, dated 18th September 1858, No. 3807.

SIR,

I have the honor to bring to the notice of the Right Honorable the Governor in Council the very considerable inconvenience and interruption to public business which occurs from the fact of a portion of the Sea Customs Establishment being placed between the Master Attendant's Office and my own ; thus dividing the Marine, and equally dividing the Sea Customs Departments. The consequence of this is, that persons belonging to, and others having business to transact with, the Sea Customs Department, are momentarily passing and repassing my Offices, and their conversation and occasional squabbles are a source of much annoyance, interfering frequently with the due performance of the duties of my Office.

2. The Government will remember that in May 1851, the present Collector of Sea Customs having represented that he had not sufficient space for his Establishment, the three rooms occupied by the then Marine Board were given up to him, and two other rooms contiguous to the Master Attendant's Office, and

part of the Verandah enclosed taken possession of in lieu. This arrangement continued for some time, but the heat during the hot months, and the wet during the N. E. Monsoon destroying all papers in the Verandah room, rendered the premises so very unsuitable that in the year 1854, after his Lordship, the present Governor, had personally inspected them, a modification took place : the Board resumed their former quarters and the Collector of Sea Customs took the two rooms they then vacated. It was noticed at the time that some inconvenience would be experienced from the two Departments being thus mixed, but the Collector stated that he would require the Verandah room, and so the arrangement was acquiesced in.

3. Since this time, however, the Verandah has never been occupied ; its use being, as before any alterations took place, to admit of a free communication from one end of the building to the other. This additional space not being required for occupancy by the Collector of Sea Customs, I would therefore solicit, under the circumstances of inconvenience set forth in the first paragraph, that an exchange of rooms may be ordered, so that each Department may be distinct and not interfere with the other, which may be effected by my relinquishing to the Sea Customs the two Northern rooms now occupied by my Clerks and moving them into the two rooms contiguous to the Master Attendant's Office which were handed over to Mr. Underwood in July 1854.

4. The accompanying Sketch will shew the nature of the present and proposed arrangements.

No. 7. ORDER THEREON, No. 379 ; dated 23rd September 1858.

Referred to the Acting Collector of Sea Customs, who will report whether he has any objection to the arrangement proposed by the Superintendent of Marine, and, if not, will at once carry it out.

(Signed) T. PYCROFT,
Chief Secretary.

No 379.

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Forb. George. &
23rd September, 1858. J

Copy to Collectors of Sea Customs
" Supt of Marine } Sep. 28th.

290