

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Marine

DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No.

325

Press
~~Mis.~~

Dated

11. 10. 1861.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Marine Department,
11th October 1861.*

No. 17. Read the following letter from J. J. FRANKLIN, Esq., Superintendent of Marine ; to J. D. SIM, Esq., Secretary to Government, Marine Department, Fort Saint George, dated 30th September 1861, No. 2,730.

I have the honor to inform you that the Collector of Malabar has represented the great difficulty that is occasionally experienced by the Customs authority at Cochin in levying port dues from vessels in the roadstead, passengers being at times landed from them and the vessels immediately afterwards quitting the port without satisfying the claims which have thus been incurred. To remedy this the Collector suggests that the Master Attendant, with whom he has been in communication, and who is quite prepared to undertake the duty, should be empowered to levy the due when occasion requires his interference.

2. Section 45 of Act XXII of 1855 provides for the port due being levied by the Collector of Sea Customs, or such other Officer as the Government may appoint. Under the ordinary circumstances of a vessel coming into the port for a short time and landing a passenger, the demand could be made by the Sea Customs officer through the Master Attendant ; but I can understand that there may be cases when this could not be done. The Commander of a vessel, for instance, desirous of evading the due might decline all communication with the shore, transshipping a passenger or passengers with their baggage to some vessel in the roads and then leaving. The name and tonnage of the vessel may not be known, and a correct claim consequently could not be made out. In such a case it would manifestly be an advantage if the Master Attendant on boarding her were empowered to claim the due. I beg therefore to support the Collector's recommendation that the Master Attendant at Cochin be authorized to levy the port due as well as the Collector of Sea Customs.

No. 18. ORDER THEREON, 11th October 1861, No. 325.

Resolved that the Master Attendant at Cochin be authorized, subject to the orders of the Collector of the district, to collect the port dues levied under Act VII, 1858.

(Signed) J. D. SIM,
Secretary to Government.

N^o 325 - 11th October 1861

Well Resolved that the Master
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J. D. S.

The Suptd. of Marine.
" Collector of Malabar } 11/10
" Asst. Secy. }