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M.R.O. 1—82 400—22-11-30

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public Works DEPARTMENT.

Cons. 1.1257

G.O. No. 2727 Press Mis.

Dated 23-11-1897

Not to be folded or roughly handled

No. 9. Read the following letter from J. D. SIM, Esq., Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue; to H. FORBES, Esq., Acting Secretary to Government, dated 30th October 1857, No. 3708.

SIR,

From Collector	27th August.	in Consultation	22nd Septr.	1855.
Proceeding to		do.	22nd Septr.	,,
From do.	4th	in Consultation	22nd Decr.	,,
Proceeding to		do.	22nd do.	,,
From do.	6th	in Consultation	30th Oct.	1857.

I am directed by the Board of Revenue to submit for the consideration and orders of the Right Honorable the Governor in Council the correspondence noted in the margin relative to the purchase of the building now rented as the Sea Custom House at Negapatam.

It appears that this House belongs to a Miss Walker, who offers to sell it to Government for 5,000 Rupees. The value of the building is estimated at Rupees 3,900 and the cost of putting it in thorough repair at Rupees 3,164 total Rupees 7,064. The building can however be advantageously altered for Rupees 2,962. The Acting Collector states that the owner refuses to accept a less sum than 5,000 Rupees, and that she has made arrangements for repairing the building and intends to raise its rent from 21½, the sum now paid, to 40 Rupees per mensem.

It seems that the position of the House is the very best that could be selected for the purpose both as regards the landing of Cargo and the accommodation it affords, and that there is no other suitable House or situation for building one, available. From the Statement furnished by the Acting Collector it will be seen that the total Sea Customs duties collected at Negapatam during five years or from Fusly 1231, to 1235, amounted after deducting charges to Rupees 4,23,408-10-1 giving an average of Rupees 84,681 per annum.

The enhanced rent at 40 Rupees per month would be equivalent to the interest at 5 per cent of a capital sum of Rupees 9,600 independent of future repairs as a mere matter of economy therefore it would probably be better to submit to the higher rent than to purchase on the proposed terms. The peculiar eligibility of the building, immediately in front of the wharf renders it however a matter of importance that Government should secure permanent possession of it and the Board would suggest the advisability of its being purchased for a sum not exceeding 5,000 Rupees, if the necessary alterations can be made for not more than 3,000 Rupees. These alterations have been estimated to cost Rupees 2,692 but the Board apprehend that the estimate has not been checked by the Civil Engineer. They think however that 8,000 Rupees would be well expended in securing a good and convenient Custom House for so important a place as Negapatam.

The Board do not concur with Mr. Grenfell that Mr. Jenson was warranted in leading the proprietor of the house and the intending purchaser to be so confident of Government purchasing the property as to break off their negotiations. They remark also that the Acting Collector seems to have partially misapprehended their proceedings of the 22nd December last, as regards the checking of the estimate for repairs and alterations. The Board think it better however to place the matter before Government now, than to incur further delay.

Para. 2 of letter to Collector 21st November 1856.

No. 10. ORDER THEREON, No. 2179; dated 25th November 1857.

The Board submit a correspondence with the Acting Collector of Tanjore, regarding a building at Negapatam now occupied as a Sea Custom House, at a monthly rent of 21½ Rupees. The owner wishes to sell the property for 5,000 Rupees; but its value is estimated by the Engineer Department at only 3,900 Rupees, and it is calculated that its thorough repair will cost 3,164 Rupees more. The proprietor however declines to sell the house for less than she has asked for it, and states her intention to put it in repair, and thereafter to raise the rent to Rupees 40 per mensem. Under these circumstances, and adverting to the desirableness of securing a building so well adapted, both as regards site and accommodation, to the purposes of a Sea Custom House, the Board recommend its purchase at the price demanded.

Fort Saint George, Public Works Consultation of 1st December 1857.

2. Under ordinary circumstances, the Government would not hesitate to authorize the course recommended by the Board; but under the present restriction on expenditure, they are of opinion that it would be preferable to let the proprietor repair the premises, and to take them on a lease at the enhanced rent; on the understanding that it is open to Government to purchase the building for 5,000 Rupees, plus the sum that may be proved to have been spent in repairs, whenever it may suit them so to do.

(Signed) H. FORBES,
Acting Secretary to Government.

Revenue Board Office
Fort St George
30th October 1857

No 3708

From
I D Sim Esq
Acting Secretary to the
Board of Revenue

To
H Forbes Esq
Acting Secretary to Government
Revenue Department

Sir,

I am directed by the Board of Revenue to submit for the consideration and orders of the Right Honorable the Governor in Council the correspondence noted in the margin relative to the purchase of the building now rented as the Sea Custom House at Negapatam.

It appears that this House belongs to a Miss Walker, who offers to sell it to Government for 5,000 rupees. The value of the building is estimated at Rupees 3,900 and the cost of putting it in thorough repair at Rs 3164 total Rupees 7064. The building can however be advantageously taken for Rupees 2962. The Acting Collector states that the owner refuses to accept a

From Coll[r] 23[d] Sept[r] 1857
Rec[d] 25[th] Sept[r]
From do 28[th] in Cons
23[d] Sept[r]
Rep[d] 6 do 22[d] do
From do 6 in Cons
30[th] Oct[r] 1857

a less sum than 5,000 rupees, and that she has made arrangements for repairing the building and intends to raise its rent from 24½, the sum now paid, to 30 Rupees per Mensem.

It seems that the position of the House is the very best that could be selected for the purpose both as regards the landing of Cargo and the accommodation it affords, and that there is no other suitable House or situation for landing one, available. From the Statement furnished by the Acting Collector it will be seen that the 6th Sea Customs duties collected at Negapatam during five years or from July 1861 to 1865 amounted after deducting charges to Rupees 423,608-10-1 giving an average of Rupees 84,681 per Annum.

The enhanced rent at 40 Rupees per month would be equivalent to the interest at 5 per cent of a Capital sum of R^s 9,600 independent of future repairs as a mere matter of economy therefore it would probably be better to submit to the

higher rent than to purchase on the proposed terms. The peculiar eligibility of this building - immediately in front of the wharf renders it however a matter of importance that Government should secure permanent possession of it and the Board would suggest the advisability of its being purchased for a sum not exceeding 5,000 Rupees, if the necessary alterations can be made for not more than 3,000 R^s. These alterations have been estimated to cost Rupees 2692 but the Board apprehend that the estimate has not been checked by the Civil Engineer. They think however that 8,000 R^s would be well expended in securing a good and convenient Custom House for so important a place as Negapatam.

The Board do not concur with Mr^r Grenfell that Mr^r Jensen was warranted in leading the proprietor of the house and the intending purchaser to be so confident of Government purchasing the property as to break off their negotiations. They remark also that

para 2 of letter to Civil Sec^y dated 7th

asked

that the Acting Collector seems to have
fearfully misapprehended their proceed-
ings of the 22d December last, as re-
gards the charging of the Estimate for
repairs and alterations. The Board
think it better however to place the
matter before Government now, than
to incur further delay

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your most obedt Servant

Rec: Bond Office
— 30th Dec. 1834

J. A. Lee
Acting Secretary.

To

H. Fakes Esq.
Acting Secy to Government
Revenue Department.

Rec: 18th. Nov.

- chake for 5000 Rs
please the Lascars should
not retain, Remove
it may suit the
Govt.

2-11-57.

I think the latter
had be the preferable
course under present

P.W.D.

No. 2179.

Extract from the Minutes of Consultation

Under date the 24th November 1857.

Read the following
letter from the Acting Secretary
to the Board of Revenue.

/Here enter 30th October 1857, No. 3708/

The Board submit
a correspondence with the
acting Collector of Tanjore, re-
-garding a building at Negapatam
now occupied as a Sea Customs
House, at a Monthly rent of
21 1/2 Rupees. The owner wishes
to sell the property for 5000 Rupees,
but its value is estimated by
the Engineer Department at
only 3,900 Rupees, and it is calcu-
-lated that its thorough repair
will cost 3164 Rs. more. The proprietor
however declines to sell the
house for less than the sum
asked

asked for it, and states her intention to put him repair, and thereafter to raise the rent to Rupees 40 per Mensem. Under these circumstances, and adverting to the desirableness of securing a building so well adapted, both as regards site and accommodation, to the purposes of a Sea Customs House, the Board recommend its purchase at the price demanded.

2. Under ordinary circumstances, the Government would not hesitate to authorize the course recommended by the Board, but under the present restriction on expenditure, they are of opinion that it would be preferable to let the proprietor repair the premises, and to take them on a lease at the enhanced rent, on the understanding that it is open to Government to purchase the building for 5000 Rupees, plus the sum that may be proved to have been spent in repairs, whenever it may suit them so to do.

[illegible]

To Copies to Bar. Rev. Dept. 26.
" to Engr.
1 — Accts. Genl's
1 — Civil Audr.

Public Works 1857 Despatch
Dto Govt 1st Decr 57.

No 2179.

Extract Minis: of Govt:
Of 25th Novr 57.

Extract from the Proc: of the Bd of Pub: Works 25th Nov: 57 in 20: 4/58 No 5031 R.D.

Declining, for reasons stated, to purchase at present the Sea Custom House at Negapatam.