

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Political DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 257	Press ~~Vis~~
Dated 3-7-1863	

Not to be folded or roughly handled

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*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Political Department,
3rd September 1863.*

No. 8. Read the following letter from Colonel C. A. ORR, R. E., Mint Master ; to the Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George, dated Mint, 27th August 1863, No. 107.

1. With reference to the Order of Government in the Political Department, under date the 15th August 1863, No. 236, directing the cases marked 2, 3, 4 and 5, containing a gold net-work Howdah, two Ivory Thrones, and the two State Swords belonging to the Tanjore Regalia, to be sent to the Government Museum, I have the honor to inform you that as the Howdah is simply made of a frame work of iron overlaid by a thin covering of gold with the intermediate space filled with gold netting, the article appears to me in no way remarkable as a specimen of art or construction, and is of value only for the gold that may be stripped off it, and the surreptitious abstraction of which will probably be the result of its being lodged in the Museum. I would respectfully suggest that I may be authorized to strip off the gold and to sell it for the benefit of Government, disposing of the frame work in such manner as I may find most advantageous.

2. Some very objectionable carvings on the two Ivory Thrones having been pointed out to me, I think these two articles are scarcely fit objects for preservation and exhibition, and I would recommend their destruction, and that the two State Swords, which are really worthy of care, should alone be sent to the Museum.

No. 9. ORDER THEREON, 3rd September 1863, No. 257.

The Governor in Council approves of the Mint Master's proposal to sell the gold of the Howdah and to destroy the Ivory Thrones, sending only the State Swords to the Museum.

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

3^d September 1863. No 257.

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Mint Master's proposal to sell the
gold of the Howdah and to destroy
the Ivory Thrones, sending only the
State Swords to the Museum.

To the Officers in charge of the Mint. Indrag.
" Officers in charge of the Govt. Museum. } des. p. 2 5/9/63
" Accountant General.