M.R.O. 14—13,000—27-9-24.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 2610	Press Mis.—
208-209	
Dated 15-12-1926.	

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department, 15th December 1862.

No. 208. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 1st December 1862:—

Read the following letter from R. W. NORFOR, Esq., Superintendent of Stamps, to W. HUDLESTON, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated 27th November 1862, No. 425 of Fasli 1272.

SIR,

1. Having taken charge of the office of Superintendent of Stamps and of the Stock of Stamps therein, I have the honor to submit some remarks upon the available means for the protection of the Stamps, in the building now occupied as the Stamp Office.

2. As regards the site of the present Office there can be no doubt that, having the public convenience in view, a better one could not be, but the premises are inconveniently small, and when as at certain seasons is usual, a press of work occurs, much inconvenience is felt from the crowding together of the different branches of the establishment, and from the small space that can be allotted to each.

3. In the examination of Stamps, and in counting and packing them for issue, the whole has to be done in a room little more than arms length from the street.

4. The room in which the stock of Postal, Receipt, and Bill Stamps, are stored is simply a godown with an iron barred window, and an ordinary door, strengthened by an iron bar.

5. The cases in which the Stamps are kept in this room are two ordinary almirahs, with Chubb's Padlocks, but very bad fastenings, and six iron chests, these last are good of their kind but are not fire proof.

6. It will be seen that although, with constant vigilance, loss of Stamps by theft may be prevented, yet that there is no guarantee against their destruction by fire. A contingency that with so valuable a stock, does require to be provided against.

7. There are two means by which this serious risk might be obviated. One by the purchase of fire proof safes, the other by the building of a strong room in the usual manner with a fire proof door: six safes sufficiently large would not cost less than 500 Rupees each or Rupees 3,000. A door for a strong room would cost Rupees 600 about, and the masonry according to the size of the room.

8. If the building now occupied was to be considered the permanent Office of Stamps, I would earnestly ask that measures of security should at once be adopted, and that a strong room should be built as the best means of guarding against accidents or robbery; but in the hope that a suitable building can before long be assigned to the Department, I now only wish to draw the attention of the Board to the serious defects of the present Office.

9. I would, however, solicit the Board's sanction to a small outlay which I desire to make, for the purpose of obtaining a packing room, the want of which is greatly felt, and for the better arranging of work in one of its branches. The cost is estimated at Rupees 41.

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1. Ordered to be submitted to Government with the Board's recommendation that the question of providing a permanent Office for the Superintendent of Stamps in a suitable locality be taken into consideration at an early date.

2. The petty charge of Rupees 41, which the Superintendent proposes to incur, may be debited in his contingent Bill, but he will be requested to state somewhat more definitely what is the nature of the arrangement he intends to make, as the building is private property.

(A true Copy and Extract.)

(Signed.) W. HUDLESTON, *Secretary.*

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Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
15th December 1862.

No. 209. ORDER THEREON, 15th December 1862, No. 2,610.

The Board are requested to bring some more definite proposition before the Government; meanwhile they can ascertain whether the proprietor of the premises now occupied by the Superintendent of Stamps will allow a strong room to be built. They will consider also whether the bulk of the stock of water-marked paper and Adhesive and Postal Labels should not be kept elsewhere than in the Superintendent's Office.

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

The Directions cannot be drawn up until the Drawings of the new Custom House are received.

W

JP

No. 2610-

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From the Secy. to Govt.
15th December 1862.
To the Supdt. of Stamps & Postal Receipts.

JR

Rev=
Pros of Govt for 1862 Departt
December
N.-3310-

Proceedings of the
Board of Revenue

Dated 1st
Dec.r 1
Rec.d 2d
December 1862

Sir
I do Do of Wednesday 9th Feby 63
No 352 in Do

Submitting copy of a
letter from the Superintend
ent of Stamps with a rec
commendation that the
question of providing a per
manent office for that Offic
in a suitable locality be
taken into consideration
at an early date.

No 208 & 209.

No 2610-15 Dec.r

With papers

8th Dec.r/62 R.C.