

Ecclesiastical (1898) Department.

ORDINARY MS.

G.O., No. 71-72

DATED 17-6-98

INDEXED.

10/11

[Despatch Abstract.]

Addressing the Consul for
Germany at Madras in view to get the
report of the death of the Rev J. Black
officially confirmed from the authorities in
Germany.

PRINTED IN G.O., dated

3rd August 1900

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

[illegible]

CURRENT No. 152

CHIEF SECRETARY
12 MAY. 1898
GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

From
The Rev^d C^d F. Polley & A.
Diocesan Chaplain.

For Orders

as to whether, with ref. to para
4 of the current, the German authorities
may be addressed in view to
get the report of Rev. J. Black's
death officially confirmed before
the Sec^y of State is addressed
in accordance with precedents.
(G.O. 28 d/3.5.97 G; G.O. 74-5 d/19.7.97 +)

Dated 12th May 1898
 Received } do
 Registered }
 Enclosures one.
 Spare copies

SUBJECT.

57
17.5.98
It is very necessary to get official confirmation. I have heard on the night of the 14th April, it suggested that Mr. Black went into hiding. - No one saw him fall overboard. The suggestion is improbable because it would be so much

reer assured that his untimely death will be widely and deeply mourned.

Easier to go into hiding on shore. In any case there could be no doubt after the ship reached ~~the~~ the next port or her destination.

May 5-98

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.
	35	Pub. Eccl	6.6.98
	29	Eccl	3.5.97
		papers	
	688	Pub.	14.6.97

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

Madras Mail
May 5th 1898

Suicide of the Reverend John Black.

IT IS WITH DEEP REGRET THAT WE HAVE to record the death, under peculiarly tragic circumstances, on the voyage Home, of the Reverend John Black, M. A., late Officiating Chaplain, St. Mark's, Bangalore. On the 8th ultimo our Bangalore correspondent informed us that the deceased gentleman, "having received letters by the last English Mail requiring him to start immediately for Home, obtained six months' leave (by wire) on urgent private affairs and left Bangalore yesterday morning by the Southern Mahratta Railway for England, via Bombay." From what has since transpired, we learn that Mr. Black did not sail from Bombay, but from Colombo, which port he left on the 10th ultimo by the Nord-deutscher Lloyd Imperial German Mail steamer *Bayern*, Captain Prehn, and that his death occurred by his leaping overboard at some time unknown between the 17th and 18th idem, when the steamer was between Perim and Suez. A private letter, dated the 21st ultimo, received by this week's Mail from Suez, gives some few particulars of the melancholy occurrence. It appears that on Sunday, the 17th ultimo, Mr. Black repeatedly seated himself on the rail of the vessel, and he was as often warned of the danger of doing so. From his demeanour it was judged by some of the passengers that he was not in full possession of his faculties. On the Monday morning he was missed, and on his cabin being searched a letter was found addressed to a brother clergyman, who was a fellow passenger, saying that the deceased had intended to travel *incognito* as a layman, but that he had been recognised on board. He was unable, he said, to afford any information as to the reason of his committing the rash act he contemplated, but he begged his fellow passenger to take charge of all his property. There is thus no doubt that the deceased took his own life by casting himself into the sea. Great regret will be felt at the various stations in which Mr. Black had served as Chaplain, for he was universally liked, and very deep sympathy will be felt for his widow and children, who have been anxiously awaiting his arrival Home.

The Reverend John Black, M.A., of Trinity College, Dublin, and Dublin University, joined the Madras Ecclesiastical Department on the 15th March, 1880. His first appointment was to St. George's Cathedral, Madras, after which he held the chaplaincy of Trevandrum for nearly four years, officiating during this period for varying terms at St. Mark's, Bangalore, and again at the Cathedral. He was posted to the Cathedral on the 11th March, 1884, as Joint Chaplain and remained there until February, 1887, when he returned to Bangalore to officiate at St. Mark's, being transferred in November, 1888, to an officiating appointment as Joint Chaplain of St. Mathias's, Vepery, in which he was confirmed in April, 1889. He held this appointment for about a year and was then transferred to St. Stephen's, Ootacamund, for the usual period of two years, reverting to Vepery in October, 1892, and holding the Joint Chaplaincy there as his substantive appointment up to the day of his death. He was frequently absent as officiating Chaplain at other stations, Holy Trinity and St. Mark's, Bangalore, both claiming his services at various times. His actual service extended to a little over 15 years, so he would have been entitled to retire on pension about two years hence. He was a good scholar, an admirable preacher, a born orator, and a man of very kindly disposition and pleasing manners. What causes could have combined to throw him off his mental balance we are at a loss to imagine, but we feel assured that his untimely death will be widely and deeply mourned.

Order of the Bishop
No. 715 ed 87-6-98 Government N° 152

ECCLESIASTICAL DEPARTMENT,

No. 1476.

Ootacamund 12th May 1898.

From

THE REV. C. H. PELL, M.A.,

BISHOP'S CHAPLAIN,

To

THE HONOURABLE THE CHIEF SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT,

Stone House Hill
Ootacamund.

SIR,

I have the honor, by desire of the Right Reverend the Bishop, to state that there is very strong reason for believing that the Reverend John Black, Chaplain on the Ecclesiastical Establishment, drowned himself in the Red Sea on the night of the 14th of April, when on his voyage home in the Norddeutscher Lloyd Imperial German Mail Steamer "Bavaria".

2. The Bishop's authority for this statement is the "Madras Mail" Newspaper of Thursday May 5th. The slip containing the Article is herewith enclosed.

3. The Archdeacon is endeavouring through the Editor of the Madras Mail, to obtain further light on the sad occurrence from the recipient of the letter written on the 21st from Suez.

4. It seems however requisite that the report should be confirmed from an official source. The German authorities, would doubtless

Recd 9783/8

on p. 10 p. 6
furnish Government with such a statement of facts as is available.

5. I may mention that I received a letter from Mr. Black, dated S.S. "Bavon", off Aden, 15th April, in which he seemed to be in his usual health and expressed the hope of getting to London overland from Naples, and, as soon as he had settled his business, of asking permission to return to duty bringing his wife with him. He gave his address Messrs King & Co.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

C. H. Kelly

Bishop's Chaplain

[G
24]
Lit. 500-10-5-08.

Shit 233 reel
1877

Eccl. DEPARTMENT.

Papers to be read in Proceedings:

Again G.O., dated

Again G.O., dated

Current No. 152 of 1898, dated 12/5

" " " 189 " "

" " " 189 " "

189 , No.

189 No.

from Bishop's Chaplain

C.S.

ORDER.

P.S.

Comm. to the German Consul at Madras with the request that he will be so good as to obtain from the authorities at Germany official confirmation of the death of the Rev. J. Black and report the same for the information of Govt.

2. The Rt. Honble the Secretary of State for India will be addressed (From orders)

To The Consul for Germany at Madras
Bishop's Chaplain
Accountant Genl.

6. 98

Letter to my good friend at the Secy of State
The Rt Honble the Secretary of State for India
My Lord,
We have the honour to

miss a copy ~~a copy~~ of our Bo. 8
 No. dated this day relating
 to the death of the Rev. John Black,
 Chaplain on the Ecclesiastical
 Establishment of this Presidency,
 and to request that the vacancy
 thus created may be filled up
 as soon as possible.

2. The result of the enquiry with
 the German authorities will be
 communicated to Your Lordship
 in due course.

[Faint handwritten notes, mostly illegible]

Note -
 Please see C's note at A. It is sub?
 that the usual despatch to S. of S. asking him
 to fill up the vacancy may go at once
 without awaiting reply from Germany
 which may take long ^{the delay} ~~cause inconvenience~~
 to the Eccl. authorities.

To Pol. for remark
 M. 6. 98.

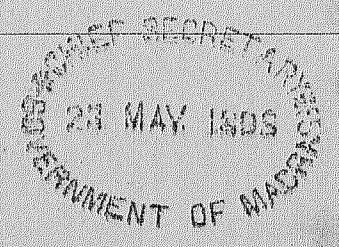
It seems clear from that both C.S. & H.M. mean
 that we should get the information confirmed
 before we write home. Please altered the order accordingly.
 22m
 5. 6. 98

Ecclesiastical Circular No. 167

List of Ecclesiastical and Judicial Officers granted extensions of leave or
 permitted to return to duty, forwarded in accordance with Public
 (Ecclesiastical) Despatch to the Government of India, dated 4th August
 1887, No. 95.

EXTENSIONS OF LEAVE.

Name.	Appointment.	Period and Nature of Extension.



The death is reported of
 PERMITTED TO RETURN.

Name.	Appointment.	Date on which permitted to return.
the Revd. John Black	Senior Chaplain, Madras Estab.	on the 18 th April last on his homeward voyage

May 8-98.
 India Office,
 London.

W. S. Trust
 Secy to the Judicial
 and Public Department.

Recd 23. 3. 98.
 Y 25305. 250.-12/93. I. 2505.

Le No. 167/98 East.

Note for the Cb

Le No. 152 of 98 East. of which an abstract is put up returned from Circulation on the 23rd. It was sent to the Public Clerk at Madras on the same day.

DR
27.5.98

Note to the A.S.

The file has probably reached you so I send this in continuation

Curd
27.5.98

Cb.

This is sufficient for official purposes, but the Enquiry to German Consul may still go.

At 23.5.98

Yes

OK

25/5/98

Political Dept

C. No. 153 9ed

Atti

It is submitted that
the German Consul should
be addressed by letter &
not by order.

Cub.
16/12/90

Yes. This
is right.
May 6. 91

So

Ecclesiastical

u.o.

Papers to be read in Proceedings:—

Again G.O., dated

Again G.O., dated

Current No. 152

" 167

189 , No.

189 , No.

of 1898, dated 12 May , from Bishop's Chaplain

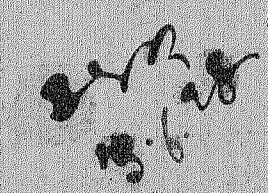
" 1898 , " 3 May , " India Office

" 189 , "

Cs

ORDER. No. 71. D. 17 June 1898.
Mis

The German Consul will be addressed in view to get the report of the Rev. J. Black's death officially confirmed from the authorities in Germany.
(Fr. orders)



15/6/98.

To

The Bishop's Chaplain (98)

Order 22-6-98.

Letter No. 72. D. 17th June 1898.

To the Consul for Germany at Madras

Sir,

I am directed to forward the accompanying copy of a letter from the Bishop's Chaplain, Madras, No. 1776 of 12 May 1898, regarding the death of the Rev. J. Black Chaplain in the Madras Ecclesiastical

I to request that you will be good as to obtain, for the formation of H.E. the Governor Council, official confirmation the report of the Chaplain's state from the authorities in Germany.

/Fr. Order/

8/6.98

Q9 R 98
11. 16/98 12.6

at these times many are
at the same time as the
... I will all for the
... the same as the
... the same as the

The original draft in order form
followed precedent in G.O. 756 July 1897 A
in the first copy of the draft

... the same as the
... the same as the
... the same as the
... the same as the

When copied 21/6 1896
When examined
When signed

AGAIN G.O., No. 189 DATED

CURRENT No.

ENCLOSURES TO C. No.

ORDER OF GOVERNMENT

A A A A A A A

LETTER OF GOVERNMENT

STATEMENT WITH DITTO

PAPERS NOT FILED UP, BEING MEANT FOR DESPATCH
IN ORIGINAL

N.B. -

A = Copy in full.
B = Not to be copied
P = Copy abstract only.
Q = Copy heading only