M.R.O. 1—88,000—16-10-28.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Judicial **DEPARTMENT.**

G.O. No. 1913 Press ~~Mis.~~

32-33

Dated 11—12— ~~19~~ 1816

313

Not to be folded or roughly handled

No. 32. Read the following letter from the Resident Councillor at Singapore, to the Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George; dated Singapore, 31st October 1866, No. 455.

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your communication, of date the 24th ultimo, No. 1502, having reference to an over-payment made for certain Military Details sent from here to Madras, in the month of November last year.

2. In making the necessary explanations in this matter, I shall be compelled to go a little into detail.

3. Having 16 Convicts to send to Madras, and considering that, for their safe custody, a Guard of 12 men was necessary, I applied, on the 26th October 1865, to the Master Attendant for a passage for the Convicts and Guard, and he arranged with the Agents of the Ship *Baringa* to take them at the rate of Rupees 100 per head. I may here remark that the rate of passage for Convicts and their Guards is always considerably higher than for ordinary Details, on account of the expense attending the construction of Prison Guard-room, Arm-racks, &c., and the large accommodation allotted between decks. The rate being arranged, and half passage money paid here according to agreement, I duly advised your Government of the embarkation and terms of passage, and this transaction was finally arranged at Madras without difficulty.

4. Subsequently to my agreement for the transport of the Convicts, on the application of the Military authorities here, the Master Attendant was called upon to obtain passage for 52 Military Details, and it appears that he agreed with the Agents of the *Baringa* to convey these at Rupees 50 per head.

5. In arranging for the transport of Military Details, adjustment of charges is made between the Master Attendant, the Station Staff Officer, and the Commissariat Department.

6. I find, upon inquiry, that, through error somewhere, apparently in the Office of the Master Attendant, the 12 men of the Convict Guard, for whom passage had already been arranged, were again included among the Details, and thus—in addition to the half passage money, 50 Rupees for each, already paid by me—a second half passage money, at the rate of Rupees 25 per head, was paid by the Commissariat. No repetition of this error was, however, committed at Madras, so that the only over-payment is that made to the Agents of the *Baringa* here, namely 12×25=Rupees 300, and this sum they (the Agents) state that they are not in a position to refund, as they have no open accounts with the owners of the vessel, but that, upon the production of the Certificate herein enclosed, their correspondents at Madras, Messrs. Bainbridge, Byard, Gair & Co., will pay this amount.

From Messrs. MACLAINE, FRASER & Co., to the Master Attendant, Singapore; dated Singapore, 2nd November 1866.

In reply to your verbal communication, we beg to state that the amount of passage money collected here by Captain Williams, of the Ship *Baringa*, amounted to $1420-20 as follows:—

For half passage money of 16 Convicts and Guards.....	$ 636-36
For do. do. of 64 details and 10 children.....	,, 783-84
	$1420-20

We have advised Messrs. Bainbridge, Byard, Gair & Co., of Madras, that the error has been discovered, and they will no doubt arrange the matter there.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Judicial Department,
11th December 1866.

No. 33. ORDER THEREON, 11th December 1866, No. 1913.

Ordered that a copy of the foregoing letter be furnished to the Superintendent of Marine, with reference to his letter of the 5th September last, No. 3472.

2. Mr. Franklin will apply to Messrs. Bainbridge, Byard, Gair & Co., for the refund of the over-payment in question.

(True Extract).

Chief Secretary.

To the Superintendent of Marine.
„ Accountant General.

Ezd. J. H. Burns.

No 1913 - 11 Dec^r 1866.

Ordered that a copy of the foregoing letters be furnished to the Superintendent of Marine with reference to his letter of the 5th Sept last No 3472.

2- Mr Franklin will apply to Messrs Bainbridge Byard & Gair & Co for the refund of the over-payment in question.

3- Supdt of Marine
Dep^t Accnt Genl