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M.R.O. 1-32,400-25-11-80.

## MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

G.O. No.

Press

Mis.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Marine Department,  
20th September 1861.*

No. 52. Read the following letter from J. J. FRANKLIN, Esq., Superintendent of Marine; to the Secretary to Government, Military Department, Fort Saint George, dated 17th September 1861, No. 2,607.

In my letter of the 23rd ultimo, No. 2,385, I had the honor to report that the Agents of the "Governor Higginson" purposed substituting another Steamer, the "Coringa," for that vessel, which has since been done, and she is now in the roads.

2. They desire now to be informed whether the Government will accept the "Coringa" instead of the "Governor Higginson."

3. The contract provides for the line being kept up by a Steamer of *not less* than 599 tons, and of not less than 120 horse power. The "Coringa" is but 584 tons, but on examination it is found that she is in every respect a superior vessel to the "Governor Higginson." Her cabin accommodation is more airy and roomy—she has considerably more space for troops between decks, and she can stow more cargo. She has undergone Military and Marine Survey, and both reports speak most favorably of her capabilities. The report of the Engineers of the "Coromandel" who examined her engines was equally favorable. There can therefore be nothing to object to on the score of efficiency, for although the vessel is of rather less tonnage than that stipulated for in the contract, she has more ample accommodation for Officers and men than the "Governor Higginson."

4. General Carthew appears to think that unless the "Coromandel" were to make another trip to Rangoon after bringing over the 42nd, there will be sufficient details to fill the Mail Steamer for the next three or four months. It may therefore be as well to accept the "Coringa" as a substitute, for having more space below there is less chance of the Government having to pay forfeit, as a larger number of men can be put on board for the return voyage; the freight and passage money 7,500 Rupees, which is guaranteed, being for the entire trip there and back.

No. 53. ORDER THEREON, 20th September 1861, No. 304.

The Government assent to the employment of the "Coringa," in lieu of the "Governor Higginson," under the contract with Messrs. Mackinnon Mackenzie and Co.

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

Copy

N<sup>o</sup>. 304 - 20<sup>th</sup> Sept 1861

W. M. The Govt. assent to the  
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Secy to Govt.

The Suptdt. of Marine, Sept 20  
" Mily. Dept. - for entry - 20  
" ~~Civil~~ ~~Dept.~~