

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Marine DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. *277*

Press
~~Mis.~~

Dated

17 . *7* .

18 *57*

Not to be folded or roughly handled

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Fort Saint George, Marine Consultation, 21st July 1857.

No. 5. From J. J. FRANKLIN, Esq., Secretary Marine Board; to E. MALTBY, Esq., Acting Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George, dated Madras, 15th July 1857, No. 2391.

SIR,

With reference to Extract Minutes Consultation, dated 1st Instant, No. 256, authorising the employment of the Steam Transport "Manilla" in the recovery of the boiler lost in the Madras Roads, I have the honor by desire of the Marine Board to inform you that on her last return to the Roads the Commander was directed to place himself under the orders of the Master Attendant for this purpose. Considering that his vessel would be placed in rather a perilous position by coming close to the Surf in $4\frac{1}{2}$ fathoms water, he asked for a guarantee of indemnification for any loss or damage that might be sustained in consequence of her being so employed. This the Board considered reasonable as it was not contemplated by the Charter Party that the vessel should undergo any extraordinary risk. They therefore informed the Agent of the P. and O. Company that the risk would be taken, provided the damage for which indemnification was demanded was not occasioned by any fault of the Commander or those acting under his orders. The Agent however insists, most unreasonably the Board think, that the risk shall be unconditional, and as this would throw the loss of the vessel on the Government even if occurring from carelessness or disobedience of orders on the part of the Commander or others belonging to the Ship, they strongly recommend that her services in this matter shall be dispensed with.

2. With ordinary precautions the Board do not anticipate any danger to the vessel, but as she might touch the ground if these were not taken and much danger might ensue, the Government ought not to be required to undertake a risk which would only be incurred from the negligence of those whose duty it is to see after the safety of the vessel.

4000 *Stand.* 3. The Board cannot refrain from here remarking that the Government have little cause to congratulate itself of late on the co-operation of the P. and O. Company. When engaging freight to Calcutta by the "Hindustan" for the Arms urgently required, the ammunition for them, equally wanted, was refused, notwithstanding that the usual risk was offered to be taken. The refusal to permit the "Manilla" to be employed in recovering the boiler which belongs to the bullet making machine without the Government complying with what must be considered as a most unreasonable demand, forms a second instance of a similar nature.

4. The Board now propose to engage a native Vessel or two Dhonies to assist in its recovery.

(Signed) J. J. FRANKLIN,
Secretary.

No. 6. ORDER THEREON, No. 277; dated 17th July 1857.

Under the circumstances reported the Government approve of the Marine Board hiring a Native Vessel or two Dhonies to aid in getting up the Boiler.

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For St. George, G.
17 July, 1857.

Copy to the Marine Board. Disptd 17th