

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Marine DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 490

Press
~~Mis.~~

Dated 16. 11.

1857

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Fort Saint George, Marine Consultation, 17th November 1857.

No. 17. From J. J. FRANKLIN, Esq., Secretary Marine Board; to E. MALTBY, Esq., Acting Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George, dated 9th November 1857, No. 3853.

SIR,

*From the Marine Board to the Commissary General, dated 8th October 1857, No. 3488.
From the Commissary General, dated 5th November 1857, No. 3761, with an Enclosure Memo.
from the Deputy Assistant Commissary General, dated 4th November 1857.*

I have the honor by desire of the Marine Board to submit the accompanying correspondence which has passed between them and the Commissary General on the subject of the supply and care of Marine Stores for the use of the numerous Government Steamers which are now, and henceforth will be employed

either at or in communication with this Presidency.

2. The usual custom has hitherto been to indent on the different Departments for the Stores required; and this was practicable when the supplies required were limited, but the increasing number of Steamers which must be permanently employed on this Coast, renders it necessary that some more efficient arrangements should be made to meet their demands.

3. Two courses are open, either the Master Attendant must have Godowns and an Establishment for the protection and issue of Marine Stores, or a branch of the Commissariat must be formed for this duty. The Board believe that the latter will be the least costly, and, from the peculiar duties devolving on the Commissariat Department, the most efficient. They therefore beg to recommend that the Commissary General be authorized to organize a branch of the strength proposed by the Deputy Assistant Commissary General, and to engage premises for six months for the reception of the Stores until a more permanent arrangement can be effected.

4. The Board solicit early instructions on the subject, as it is well known that the Marine Stores now in the Arsenal, and which cannot be taken charge of by this Department for want of Stowage Room, are a source of much inconvenience to the Principal Commissary of Ordnance, from their occupying space required for his own Stores.

(Signed) J. J. FRANKLIN,
Secretary.

From the Secretary Marine Board; to the Commissary General, dated 8th October 1857, No. 3488.

SIR,

With reference to your letter of the 14th May last, requesting the Marine Board to furnish a List and Description of the Marine Stores and the probable quantity of each which are likely to be annually required at this Presidency, I have the honor by their desire to acquaint you that they applied to Lieutenant Batt, in May last, when in command of the "Zenobia" on the subject, and subsequently to Captain Campbell of the "Coromandel"; but in each case without obtaining the necessary information. The last named Officer was, it is known, preparing a Statement of the Articles, but other pressing business interfered, and he has left without completing, or at any rate without submitting it.

2. The Board have for sometime had under consideration the necessity of providing increased means for supplying Steamers with the Stores they may require. Before long, several such Vessels will be permanently stationed at Madras or in the Bay of Bengal to keep up communication between this Presidency and the various Over-sea Stations at which Madras Troops are stationed; and it has become absolutely necessary that some definite arrangements should be made for promptly meeting their demands for Stores. There are no Godowns belonging to the Marine Department in which such supplies could be kept, nor is there any Establishment which could be made available for their due care and preservation. There is now a large quantity of Marine Stores, Wire, Rope, Blocks and other Articles in the Arsenal, which the Principal Commissary of Ordnance

confirmation of the Supreme for

Fort Saint George, Marine Consultation, 17th November 1857.

is most desirous to have removed as they occupy space to the exclusion of Stores belonging to his own Department, but which the Master Attendant cannot take charge of from having no premises in which to place them.

3. Under these circumstances, and in the belief that the account of their expenditure would be better kept by your Department, which is more especially one of supply, the Board would suggest that a branch be established in the Commissariat, expressly for the supply of Marine Stores, which should be kept by themselves. The indents for these Stores would then be sent to you for compliance as usual, and there would be less complication in the Accounts than if they were supplied partly through the Master Attendant and partly through your Department, as would be the case if a Marine Storekeeper Establishment were again placed under the Master Attendant, which must be done if he undertakes the responsibility of receiving and issuing the Stores.

4. It will of course be necessary that some building, to be hired, purchased or built, be appropriated for the reception of the Stores; and it is probable that some increase in your Establishment will be required for the purpose of looking after them.

(Signed) JOHN J. FRANKLIN,
Secretary.

(True Copy.)

(Signed) J. J. FRANKLIN,
Secretary.

From the Commissary General; to the Marine Board, Madras, dated 5th November 1857, No. 3761.

GENTLEMEN,

Adverting to your Secretary's letter,* No. 3756, I have the honor to inform your Board that I referred the subject of your letter† No. 3488, to the Officer in charge of the Executive Branch of this Department at the Presidency, and as I quite concur in the remarks made by that Officer in the enclosed Memorandum‡, I beg to send it without further comment.

(Signed) A. McCALLY, Lieutenant Colonel,
Commissary General.

MEMORANDUM.

1st. With reference to letter, No. 3488, from the Secretary to Marine Board, relative to Supplies of Marine Stores for Steamers to be permanently stationed at Madras, or in the Bay of Bengal, the Deputy Assistant Commissary General begs to make the following observations.

2nd. The duties to be performed by the Commissariat with regard to the above Supplies will be

1. Purchase of Articles for compliance with Indents.
2. Receipts and issues of Stores.
3. And custody of Stores.

3rd. For the efficient performance of the above duties a separate establishment will be necessary, the present strength of the Executive Branch being already overwhelmed* with work.

4th. Until the exact extent of Supplies be ascertained, the Deputy Assistant Commissary General would suggest the following Servants be employed as a temporary measure, subject to revision at the expiration of 6 months, by which period a fair trial could be made.

Fort Saint George, Marine Consultation, 17th November 1857.

<i>At Moulmein and Rangoon, where a few Steamers ply about, an establishment of 2 Clerks, &c., is maintained. It would therefore appear that the establishment here proposed is what would be absolutely necessary.</i>	One Clerk to look after the Scriptorial work in the Office on a Salary per mensem of	Rupees...	25	0	0
	One Head Conicopoly for the receipts, issues and custody of Stores on a monthly pay of.....	"	21	0	0
	One Assistant Conicopoly for do. do.	"	14	0	0
	6 Lascars or Coolies to assist in the Store Rooms on a monthly Pay to each of Rupees 7-0-0.....	Rupees...	42	0	0
	Total of Establishment per mensem.....		102	0	0

5th. On occasions when Stores are received and issued in large quantities additional temporary hands, such as Coolies, Lascars, &c., might be employed, and charged for on Certificates, &c., of *bonâ fide* employment from the Executive Officer and approved of by the Commissary General.

6th. For the preservation of Stores, Godowns are not available from the Buildings now in use with this Department. The H. C. Granary is full of Stores. The Timber Depôt has not space sufficient for its Work-shops. The fourth line Bankshall is filled with empty Casks and Stores of the Cooperage. The Military Store Department has had to hire Godowns to keep the Bedding, &c., for Calcutta, in consequence of the limited space in the Godowns of that Department. The Hospital Store Rooms, Tea Godowns, Cooperage, and Arrack Depôt have all just enough space for the Stores of their respective Departments.

7th. It would therefore be necessary to provide a distinct Godown for the custody of Marine Stores, and until the extent of Stores to be reserved by this Department is duly ascertained, the D. A. C. General would recommend hiring a Godown at the Beach, and at the expiration of 6 months, a Godown might be purchased or built, as would appear best adapted for the purpose.

8th. By adopting these suggestions, it is hoped that the wishes of the Marine Board on the subject of Marine Store Supplies would be duly attended to, and this Department would experience no difficulty in performing the duties assigned to it, with the same efficiency as in other branches of Commissariat Supplies.

EXECUTIVE BRANCH OFFICE,
Madras, 4th November 1857.

(Signed) W. R. NEWLYN, Captain,
Depy. Asst. Comy. Genl.

TO THE COMMISSARY GENERAL.

(True Copies.)

(Signed) J. J. FRANKLIN,
Secretary.

No. 18. ORDER THEREON, No. 490; dated 16th November 1857.

The Government authorize the adoption of the Plan suggested by the Marine Board for the supply and care of Marine Stores for the use of Government Steamers, in the concluding part of para: 3 of the above letter. The arrangement will be carried out at once, but will be subject to the confirmation of the Supreme Government to whom the matter will be immediately reported.

Exd. J. A. Wilson.

inconvenience to the Principal Commissary
of Ordnance, from their occupying space
required for his own stores. -

I have the honor to be,
Sir,

Your most obedient Servant,

J. M. Graham

Secretary

Madras
Marine Board Office
9th November 1837

No. 490.

At
test
J. M. Graham

Will

The Government authorize
the adoption ~~provisionally~~
of the plan suggested by the
Marine Board for the supply
and care of Marine stores
for the use of fort Steamers, in
the concluding part of para 3
of the above letter - The arrange-
ment will be carried out at
once, but will be subject to the
confirmation of the Supreme Govt

