

Government of Madras.

MARINE DEPARTMENT.

Recd.

Enclosures

1857.

Regd.

Spare copies

Letter No. 99, 11th March 1857.

FORWARDING to the Government of India copies of letters received from the Marine Board regarding the extension of Act XXII of 1855 to the ports of this Presidency.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

MARINE DEPARTMENT.

READ—the following papers:—

I

Letter—from J. J. FRANKLIN, Esq., Secretary, Marine Board, Madras.
To—the Chief Secretary to Government.
Dated—the 21st February 1857.
No.—790.

I have the honour by desire of the Marine Board to inform you that they have taken into consideration the letter from the Secretary to the Government of India of the 29th August last, No. 1098, communicated with the order of the 20th September following No. 294 with reference to their letter of the 24th June previous No. 1560.

2. The Board in their letter above indicated brought to the notice of Government that Act XXII of 1855 was not adapted to all the ports in this Presidency, and that where it was not enforced—for that was their meaning in the latter part of their first paragraph when distinguishing ports at which dues were levied from those without them—there was no legal power to prevent the throwing overboard ballast, rubbish or other substances detrimental to the anchorage.

3. The Government of India evidently refuses to admit the necessity of the proposed alteration from the belief that the question is mainly dependent on this levy of dues, but the Board trust that when they are more fully acquainted with the nature of the case there will be no longer hesitation in the matter.

4. The Act is only applicable to those ports which have a considerable trade and which can bear the expense of working its machinery. There are however along the seaboard of this Presidency many which, although too insignificant now, may soon rise to sufficient importance to need the operation of its salutary checks and rules. To impose them now would either lead to useless expense or place power in the hands of incompetent persons, and would act rather as a drawback to the rising prosperity of a port than otherwise.

5. It is manifest therefore that some measures are required to preserve these ports from deterioration during their transition state from mere anchoring places for native craft, where small quantities of cargo are shipped in small vessels, to ports of consequence.

6. In illustration of the Board's argument I am directed to insert a statement showing the progress during the last few years of the trade at the port of Calingapatam in the Ganjam district. It is evident that it would have hardly been thought necessary to introduce the Act there in 1853-54 when but nine British vessels visited the port during the year; while now, two years later the English trade, twenty-six ships in the last year is such as to render it almost imperative.

MEMO. of the number of vessels which have been at Calingapatam during the last three years and which have paid port dues.

	1853-54.	1854-55.	1855-56.
British vessels ..	9	7	26
Foreign „ ..	11	10	16
Country craft ..	31	37	38
Total ..	51	54	77

7. Many other ports will probably soon show similar results, and it is to protect their ultimate interests that the Board are now moving in the matter.

8. They would however modify their application by simply asking that the Local Government should have the power to declare *any* of the sections in force at those ports above described as not yet prepared for the whole Act.

Ports now to be brought under the operation of Act XXII of 1855.—cont.

Calingapatam }
Nagore } When efficient supervision can be afforded.
Kilakarai }

III

Official Memorandum No. 962, dated 4th March 1857.

The Secretary to the Marine Board has the honour to forward the accompanying statement of the port dues levied at the ports of the Madras Presidency for the year comprised between the 1st August 1854 and the 31st July 1855, in obedience to the order conveyed in the Chief Secretary's Official memorandum of the 27th ultimo.

2. Complete returns for the last year could not have been furnished without some little delay, as the statements from which this paper is framed have not all been received.

(By Order.)

J. J. FRANKLIN,
Secretary.

To the Chief Secretary to Government.

ENCLOSURE.

[illegible]

Names of ports.			Amount collected.	Names of ports.			Amount collected.	
			RS. A. P.				RS. A. P.	
Canara.	Mangalore		1,620 6 1	North Arcot.	Pulicat		5 15 0	
	Bekul		116 15 0		Guntur.	Epoorpoiem		131 15 0
	Oodipy		67 6 2			Mottoopully		49 3 6
	Baroor		133 3 2			Nisampatam		128 12 4
	Cundapore		353 8 4	Coottapolem			286 6 8	
	Barkul		33 15 6	Masulipatam.	Masulipatam		536 6 5	
	Coomptah		430 0 2		Rajah-mundry.	Ooringa		1,535 2 5
Aukola		246 3 11	Cocanada				1,347 8 6	
			Narasapoor				244 8 3	
Malabar.	Cannanore		897 4 6	Vizaga-patam.	Vizagapatam		1,090 6 9	
	Tellicherry		971 11 6		Bimlipatam		631 10 5	
	Kallay		48 5 6		Conadah		85 0 6	
	Baragaree		162 0 0		Poodamodks		115 11 9	
	Quilandy		145 7 0		Pentacottah		163 11 0	
	Calicut		1,453 13 0	Ganjam.	Ganjam		491 3 6	
	Junnoor		115 8 0		Munsoorottah		306 9 6	
Ponany		346 3 0	Sonnappure			83 2 0		
Choughant		27 6 0	Barmah			39 4 0		
Cochin		2,859 15 6		Calingapatam		326 5 6		
				Poondy		312 13 7		
'Tinne-velly.	Vypaur		96 7 10	Madras.	Madras		32,084 15 6	
	Tatacorin		628 14 6					
	Coilpatam		191 14 0					
	Coolasagarapatam		182 1 6					
Madura.	Keelacarry		258 3 3					
	Daveputum		66 7 0					
	Paumben		23 3 0					
	Tondi		90 1 0					
Tanjore.	Nagore		579 5 4					
	Negapatam		1,347 12 7					
	Topetorray		119 1 0					
	Moottoopettah		815 1 3					
	Teroomulvasel		417 6 8					
	Tanquebar		669 0 3					
South Arcot.	Cuddalore		389 8 6					
	Port Novo		352 2 6					
	Murkanum							
				Total			57,264 2 5	

are fully shown in the Board's second letter, they cannot be subjected to regulation in any one particular even in that (respecting the throwing out of the ballast) most necessary to prevent the ruin of the ports.

9. Under these circumstances, the Government cannot but think with the Marine Board that this Act can, for the present, be only applied to a limited number of the Ports under this Presidency, and, as respects the rest, it would be well to take advantage of the Bill which will have to be passed before August next in succession to Act XVI, 1856, for the purpose of providing some more simple and inexpensive mode of protecting the minor ports of this Presidency.

10. It would perhaps suffice to invest the Collector of the district, or other officer to be appointed by Government, with powers to prevent injury or obstruction to all ports that might not be brought under the Act XXII, 1855.

24th June last which
was laid before the
Govt of India with
view of the 9th July.
in which they represented
that Act XXII of 1855 was
not adapted to all the
ports of this Presidency,
and that when it was
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native craft, where small quantities of cargo are shipped in small vessels, to ports of consequence. The Board, however, modify their former application by simply asking that the Local Govt. should have the power to declare any of the sections in force at those ports alone described as not yet prepared for the whole Act.

5. In their letter of the 4th Instant the Board specify the ports to which they would desire, for the present, to restrict the operation of Act XXIV, 1855, with further explanation of the circumstances which render it inapplicable to the other ports of this Presidency.

6. With reference to these communications, I am instructed to point out that all ports which are brought under

7. It does not appear
that power resides in
any authority to regulate
or prevent injury to ports
which have not been
brought under the Act.

8. There are along
the coasts of this Presi-
-dency, as was noticed
in my letter of the 1st inst^t,
about one hundred
places at which Mer-
-chandise may be ship-
-ped or landed under
Act VI - 1844. Port dues
were collected at more
than fifty of these du-
-ring the years 1854/5.
The amount in some
instances falling as
low as 30-26- and even
10 Rs. - The Ports, how-
-ever, at which these
trivial sums have been
levied - as well as those
at which no collections
were made at all, altho
at present unimportant
may, in process of time,
be places of great resort
and

vide Statement append.
ed. -

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XXII, 1855. —

J.P.

To Mr. George,
11th March, 1857

Copy to the Marine Board - dup 14

Sept 19 - 1857
Merrimack 1857 Sep 19

Merrimack to Capt. H.
Aug. 1857
Oct 1857

14-7-08
17-1-12

Sept 19 to the Capt. H.
Bridges

Sept 19 to Merrimack 1857

Sept 19 to Merrimack 1857

Sept 19 to Merrimack 1857
Sept 19 to Merrimack 1857

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