

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Marine DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No.

17

Press
~~Mis.~~

Dated 8.

1-

1858

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Fort Saint George, Marine Consultation, 8th January 1858.

No. 30. From Colonel P. M. MELVILL, Secretary to Government at Bombay; to the Chief Secretary to the Government, Fort St. George, dated Bombay Castle, 17th December 1857, No. 1996.

SIR,

I am directed to acknowledge your letter, No. 403, dated 25th September last, with its accompaniments, and, in transmitting the accompanying copy of a letter from the Commander-in-Chief of the Indian Navy, No. 1400, dated 30th Ultimo, to state, for the information of the Right Honorable the Governor in Council at Fort St. George, that the Right Honorable the Governor in Council does not wish to offer any objection to the proposed alterations and improvements to the "Coromandel."

(Signed) P. M. MELVILL, Colonel,
Secretary to Government.

From Commodore G. G. WELLESLEY, Commander-in-Chief of the Indian Navy; to the Right Honorable LORD ELPHINSTONE, G. C. H., Governor and President in Council, dated 30th November 1857, No. 1400.

MY LORD,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of Secretary Colonel Melvill's letter, No. 1708, of the 24th Ultimo, with its enclosures in original, herewith returned. With reference to these letters, I do myself the honor to state that the suggestions of Captain Campbell, Indian Navy, which are very similar to those of Mr. Franklin, for improving the "Coromandel" as a Troop Transport, appear to be judicious, and, as they both had the opportunity of seeing the performances of the "Coromandel" during the passage out, and Captain Campbell has been actively employed in her conveying Troops, &c., for the last few months, his remarks are entitled to consideration from Government. As the "Coromandel" has not been to Bombay, it is impossible, without a personal inspection, to make any further observations.

2. In the 4th and 5th paras: of the letter of the Marine Board at Madras, No. 316, are some remarks upon the subject of employing Men of War as Transports which are perfectly correct, although the number of European Seamen stated to be on Board the "Zenobia" is very much exaggerated, being in fact more than double her complement, there can be no doubt that it is highly objectionable to employ Men of War permanently as Transports. It is both expensive and detrimental to the service. But in the Bombay Presidency there are no regular Transports, and all the movements of Troops at sea ordinarily are performed by War Steamers of the Indian Navy. On paras: 2 and 3 of the letter of the Marine Board, No. 316, I have addressed a separate communication to your Lordship in Council, No. 1401, of this date.

(Signed) G. G. WELLESLEY,
Commander-in-Chief of the Indian Navy.

(True Copy)

(Signed) P. M. MELVILL, Colonel,
Secretary to Government.

No. 31. ORDER THEREON, No. 17; dated 8th January 1858.

Ordered to be communicated to the Marine Board and to the Officer Commanding H. C. Steamer "Coromandel," with reference to Extract Minutes of Consultation, dated 25th September 1857, No. 402.

Exd. J. A. Wilson.

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No 17

Ordered to be com-
municated to the Marine Board
and to the Officer Commanding
H.C. Steamer "Coromandel," with
reference to G. Min. of Cons. dated
25 September 1857. No 402.

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Fort George
8 January 1858-3

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(S. 2 and others)

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To the Marine Board — } Disps 12-
" Lieut. Shadling }
" Comd. H.C. Steamer "Coromandel." }