

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Marine

DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No.

272

Press
Mis.

Dated

17-7.

18 *58*

Not to be folded or roughly handled

No 82
1858.

Calicut 1st June 1858

No 82 From

W. Robinson Esq^r,

Acting Collector of Malabar

To

T. Pycroft Esq^r,

Chief Secretary to Gov^t,

Fort St. George.

Sir,

1. I have been requested to bring
the accompanying letter from the
Secretary to the Chamber of Commerce
at Cochin to the favorable notice
of Government, and I venture most
strongly to support the application.

2. With reference to the condition
of the trade &c. at this important

To the Secretary to the Marine Board
dated 9th January 1857. N^o 53.
To Board of Revenue dated 23rd Jan'y 1857. N^o 5.
To the Secretary to the Marine Board dated
21st January 1858. N^o 153.
To Gov^t dated 29th Jan'y 1858. N^o 15.
To Board of Revenue dated 4th May 1858.
N^o 68.

Sea Port Town, I beg

to refer to the letters
noted in the mar-

gin. It is, and must,
continue to be emphatically

the Shipping Port of the Madras
Presidency

Presidency on the West Coast, and its inner harbor is the only one on the Coast, into which ships can run and lie at anchor in safety, in a fine deep backwater throughout the year. The water on the bar is far deeper than is met with on any bar south of the Kālānaddy at Sedasheghur, and if ships could only be kept steadily in mid channel, by a Steam Tug, Vessels of deep draft may be brought into smooth water, and load and lie. Large vessels now enter, and take in half or more of the cargo at the wharves on the river side. If once provided with Steam power, Cochin would become the harbor of refuge of the West Coast. Many ships would run into Cochin were it certain they could be guided in

a Steam tug and towed out.

3. Under these circumstances I would earnestly solicit the cordial support and encouragement of Government, to the proposition of the Chamber of Commerce at Cochin.

4. They propose to purchase and maintain an efficient Steam tug to be employed on the duties of the Port, and even in deepening the bar - a project of the kind has already been brought before Government. They solicit the Pilot dues.

5. Under date the 21st January last, I wrote to the Secretary to the Marine Board as follows:

	Tons	Pilot fees
1856.	22,736.	2125.
1857.	34,449.	2920.
Inc. -	11,713.	795.

The Pilotage fees manifest "an important increase of about 800 Rupees as compared with 1856, the whole of which are received and appropriated by the Licensed Pilot Mr. J. Lafrenais"

"8.

I have likewise shewn in

"the margin the fees of 4 years 1854 to 1857

"from which it will appear that there

"is a marked increase in the past

"year. I do think that an average

"of 200 Rupees per month is an excessive

"remuneration for a Pilot who for 4 or

"5 months has absolutely little or nothing

"to do. On this subject I beg to

"refer to Mr. Clarke's letter dated

"13th September 1856, No 2810, and Enclosure

"being copy of a letter from the Master

"Attendant at Cochin. I agree in

"the opinion of these Officers that

"the present system is unnecessarily

"liberal, and such is the feeling

"likewise of the Mercantile Community

"at Cochin.

"9.

If the Government would

"be prepared to give consideration

"to a proposition on the subject with

"a view to greater efficiency &c., I

"would

1854	Rt.	2625
1855	"	2260
1856	"	2125
1857	"	2920

9930

Average 2482

Monthly pay 200 Rs

Marine Department

no 272

Extract from the Minutes of Consultation
Dated 17th July 1858.

Read the following Letters

From the Asst Collector of Malabar

(Here enter 1st June 1858 No 1882)

From the Acting Secy. Marine Board.

(Here enter 7th Aug 1858 No 2743)

The Governor in Council

approves the proposal of the

Marine Board, - contained in para

6 of the letter above recorded, -

and requests that they will ac-

cordingly place themselves in

communication with the

present and late Collector of

Malabar on the subject of the

aid to be afforded the Chamber

of Commerce at Cochin in the

maintenance of the steam tug

proposed to be constructed

them and the extent of control
to be exercised by Govt over the
working of the same, in the
event of their giving any assis-
tance, as also on other minor
matters therewith connected,
reporting the result of their
deliberations to Govt.

J.P.

Copy to Marnie Wood

" to 3 Cols of Malabar.

} Despatch 21st

P.H.

W.H.