

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Marine DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. *37*

Press
~~Mis.~~

Dated *20* - *1* - 18*58*

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Fort Saint George, Marine Consultation, 26th January 1858.

No. 1. From Colonel P. M. MELVILL, Secretary to Government of Bombay; to the Secretary to the Government, Fort Saint George, dated Bombay Castle, 30th December 1857, No. 2053.

SIR,

I am directed by the Right Hon'ble the Governor in Council to communicate to you, for the information of the Right Hon'ble the Governor in Council at Fort Saint George, the accompanying copies of a letter from the Commander-in-Chief of the Indian Navy, No. 1467, dated 17th Instant, and its enclosures, reporting a defect which has been discovered in the Screw Shaft of the Screw Steamer "Prince Arthur."

As the "Prince Arthur" cannot be efficient until a new Shaft is put into her, the Hon'ble Court will be requested to furnish one, whether the sellers can be made liable or not.

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

From Commodore G. G. WELLESLEY, C. B., R. N., Commander-in-Chief of the Indian Navy; to the Right Honorable LORD ELPHINSTONE, G. C. H., Governor and President in Council, dated Bombay, 17th December 1857, No. 1467.

MY LORD,

I do myself the honor of transmitting to your Lordship in Council a Report from a Committee I directed to survey a defect in the Screw Shaft of the Honorable Company's Screw Steamer "Prince Arthur," and also a sketch of the same.

2. As your Lordship in Council is aware the "Prince Arthur" was purchased by the Honorable Court, and under agreement with the Owners she was to be delivered over at Madras. It appears by a communication from the Secretary to the Marine Board that on her arrival there no Indian Naval Officers being present a Committee was formed of the Assistant Master Attendant, the Acting Surveyor for Lloyds, and two Engineers of the Chief Engineer's Department, and their report being favorable, the Vessel was made over to the East India Company, and taken charge of by the same Commander and his establishment *pro tempore*, on a scale of wages sanctioned by the Madras Government, and by them she was navigated to this Port. The day subsequent to her arrival, she was taken into Dock, and Lieutenant Tronson, Indian Navy, took Command.

3. On the 27th Ultimo, the Vessel being still in Dock, I received a report from Lieutenant Tronson, that there was a fracture in the Main Shaft, which I therefore ordered to be taken out and surveyed in the Factory.

4. I have placed all the circumstances before your Lordship in Council because it will be observed that the Committee are of opinion that the fracture is of long standing, and there is every reason to believe that this serious defect was known to some of the Officers of the Ship before she arrived at Madras, although it escaped the attention of those who surveyed her there. Indeed it was in consequence of a statement made by one of the Crew who navigated her to Madras that the Chief Engineer and Inspector of Machinery became aware of it, and that on examination it was discovered. The defect will be repaired to some extent by strengthening the Shaft with a band of Iron as recommended by the Committee, but it appears to me that the original Owners of the Vessel should be called upon to furnish a new one, as it is most important that a Screw Shaft should be thoroughly sound.

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

Fort Saint George, Marine Consultation, 26th January 1858.

From Commander J. STEPHENS, R. N., President of a Committee of Survey; to Commodore WELLESLEY, C. B., Commander-in-Chief of the Indian Navy, dated 14th December 1857, No. 83.

SIR,

In obedience to your Memo: of the 12th of December, we have the honor to report as on the Screw Shaft of the H. C. S. "Prince Arthur."

The length of the Shaft is 24 feet 1½ inch, diameter ranging from 6½ to 9 inches, the fractured part appears to be of long standing and could not have escaped the notice of the Engineer in charge as a temporary bearing is close to the fracture.

We beg leave to forward a drawing of the Shaft shewing the fracture, &c.

(Signed) JOHN STEPHENS,
 Commander and President
 (") JEHUNGEER NOWROJEE,
 Acting Master Builder.
 (") D. McLAREN,
 Acting Chief Engineer.
 (") S. W. CORKE,
 3d Assistant Master Attendant.
 } Committee.

Supplementary to No. 362. Defects of the Engine of the Hon'ble Company's Steam Vessel "Prince Arthur," dated 25th November 1857. By Order Assistant Supt. I. N.

Shaft Screw Requires a band of cast Iron, round the fractured part.
 Slide Valve Cover... } Requires a small portion cut off to allow the Cylinder cover to be taken up.

No. 375.

We, whose names are hereunto subscribed, have taken a strict and careful Survey of the Engine above referred to, belonging to the Hon'ble Company's Steam Vessel "Prince Arthur," and have found them as stated against the articles respectively and we do further declare, that we have made and taken this Survey with such care and attention, that we are ready, if required, to make oath to the impartiality of our proceedings.

Given under our hands, this 9th day of December 1857.

(Signed) J. STEPHENS, Commander and President.
 (") JEHUNGEER NOWROJEE, Acting Master Builder.
 (") D. McLAREN, Acting Chief Engineer.
 (") S. W. CORKE, 3d Assistant Master Attendant.

(Approved.) (True Copy.)
 (Sd.) G. G. WELLESLEY, (Sd.) G. G. WELLESLEY,
 Commander-in-Chief I. N. Commander-in-Chief I. N.
 (True Copies.)
 (Signed) P. M. MELVILL, Colonel,
 Secretary to Government.

No. 2. ORDER THEREON, No. 37; dated 20th January. 1858.

Ordered that the foregoing letter and its enclosures be communicated to the Marine Board, and that they be requested to explain how it is that the defect in the Screw Shaft of the Steamer "Prince Arthur" was not detected by the Surveying Committee.
 Vide Report 13th October 1857. who after "close examination" declared her to be "perfectly sound and uninjured."

Exd. J. A. Wilson.

8.5.37
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 be communicated to the Marine
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 by the Surveying Committee.
 who after "close examination"
 declared her to be "perfectly
 sound and uninjured."
 13. Dec. 1857.
 20 January 1858
 This is in pursuance of the
 order of the Marine Board, dated 20th
 January 1858, with a view to the
 further examination of the
 defect in the Screw Shaft of the
 Steamer "Prince Arthur."